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Cadua graduates summa cum laude. **PAGE 3**

MVA joins Asia Dive Expo Japan in Tokyo. **PAGE 5**

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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 30, 2024

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Early voting off to a good start

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

terday morning with dozens of community members coming out to cast their votes.

Yesterday morning, at exactly 8:30am, a line started to form at the doors of the

multi-purpose center while cars started to line up in front
See VOTING on Page 4

The Commonwealth Election Commission officially opened the polls for early voting at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center yes-



KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

CNMI Republican Party candidate Kimberlyn King-Hinds makes her way to the polls to cast her vote early yesterday morning.

Members of the community line up in front of the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi Purpose center yesterday morning ready to cast their votes as early voting kicks off.



KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

Democratic Party of the Northern Mariana Islands delegate candidate Edwin Propst shows up at the Dems party camp at Susupe yesterday morning and encourages members of the community to cast their votes.

Palacios: Initial round of 902 talks focused on NMI financial assistance initiatives

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The initial round of 902 talks between the U.S. and CNMI governments focused on fi-

nancial initiatives, according to a statement from Gov. Arnold I. Palacios.

Yesterday, the Office of the Governor issued an
See PALACIOS on Page 4



Preteen allegedly threatens fellow students with air gun

CHRYSTAL MARINO

A student brandishing an air gun caused a shelter-in-place protocol at the Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School in Chalan Piao and two other learning schools in Chalan Kanoa yesterday.

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**

chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

A shelter-in-place protocol took place across three learning facilities yesterday as an Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School student allegedly brandished a

See PRETEEN on Page 4



Sablan

Sablan to oversee project proposals for \$5.25M EIC grant

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Special assistant for Climate Policy and Planning Christina Sablan has been chosen to serve as the lead

and point of contact in the Commonwealth's coordination and re-submission of project proposals to the Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs for the Energizing Insular Communities grant.

Last month, Insular and International Affairs assistant secretary Carmen Cantor wrote to Gov. Arnold I. Palacios informing him that the Office of Insular Affairs was

See SABLAN on Page 4

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Privacy-first mobile carrier Cape revealed progress on its work to deliver advanced telecommunications capabilities to the U.S. Navy, helping achieve 4G/5G connectivity with its partner IT&E in trials on the USS Abraham Lincoln up to 130 miles offshore.

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WORLD

Former Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte told a Senate inquiry Monday that he had maintained a "death squad" of gangsters to kill other criminals when he was mayor of a southern Philippine city.

PAGE 10



LIFE & STYLE

Sean "Diddy" Combs is accused in one of two lawsuits filed Monday of drugging and sexually assaulting a 10-year-old boy in a New York City hotel room in 2005.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

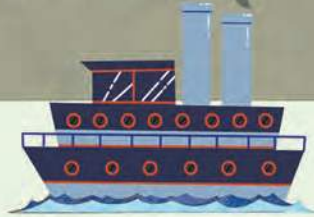
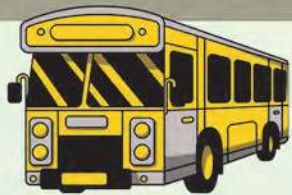
DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACT (DERA)



DERA grants and rebates, administered and awarded by the US EPA, are intended to protect human health and improve air quality by reducing harmful emissions from diesel engines.

The DERA grant releases competitive and non-competitive funding opportunities on a yearly basis. Interested parties may contact the BECQ DEQ Clean Air Program to inquire about equipment eligibility and other program guidelines and requirements.

Selected recipients may receive funding that covers up to 100% of the costs to replace existing diesel-powered vehicles, equipment, or engines!



WHAT IS DIESEL EXHAUST?

Diesel is a type of fuel derived from crude oil.

Diesel exhaust is produced from the burning of diesel fuel in most large engines, including trucks, buses, ships, construction and farm equipment, generators, and in some cars. It is a mixture of gases, vapors, and fine particulates that are harmful to both human health and the environment.



Short term exposure to diesel exhaust can cause coughs, headaches, nausea, allergic reactions causing asthma, and irritation of the eyes, nose, throat, and respiratory tract. **Long term exposure** increases the risk for serious health effects such as lung cancer.



WAYS TO REDUCE YOUR EXPOSURE TO DIESEL EXHAUST

- Limit the amount of time you spend near running engines.
- If diesel fuel is necessary, choose Ultra-Low Sulfur Diesel.
- Service your engines regularly to reduce exhaust fumes. If possible, replace old diesel engines.
- Report excessive diesel smoke to the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality!



2006 Ford New Holland Tractor



2022 John Deere Tractor



DERA FOR CNMI



- In 2022, the BECQ Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) applied for and received the DERA State Grant, with the Rota Department of Lands and Natural Resources as the sub-awardee to replace their 2006 Ford New Holland tractor.
- The 2006 Ford New Holland tractor with a Tier 1 engine was replaced by a 2022 John Deere tractor with a Tier 4 engine.
- Tier 4 certified engines meet EPA's highest emission standards by significantly reducing air pollution, specifically emissions of particulate matter (PM) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx) to near zero levels.

For more information, please contact the DEQ Clean Air Program at
670-664-8512 or email deq.air@becq.gov.mp

Local

Cadua graduates summa cum laude

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
raxfloyd@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Saipan son JC Cadua graduated from Trident University

International with a Master of Science in Homeland Security last Oct. 27 at Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CHCC: Change Healthcare Inc. is not CHCC

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. would like to inform the general public that Change Healthcare Inc. and CHCC are distinct entities and are not affiliated with one another.

Recently, individuals within the CNMI community have received a Notice of Breach from Change Healthcare Inc. CHCC wants to clarify that CHC and CHCC are different organizations with somewhat similar acronyms.

Change Healthcare Inc. is a U.S.-based company specializing in revenue and payment cycle management services, which connects payers, providers, and patients within the U.S. healthcare system.

This Notice of Breach from CHC does not pertain to CHCC or any services provided by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. here in the CNMI.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Notice of Breach you received from Change Healthcare Inc., please reach out to them directly as CHCC is unable to provide assistance on this matter. (PR)

Sand available at Saipan cemetery sites for public use

The Saipan Mayor's Office wishes to inform the general public that sand is available at cemetery sites for the public to utilize at their plots in preparation for All Souls Day and All Saints Day.

The following sites are where MOS personnel have allocated two loads of sand each for public use.

- Chalan Kanoa Cemetery
- Tanapag Cemetery
- San Roque Cemetery

You may contact the Saipan Mayor's Office at (670) 234-6208 for more information. (PR)

SMO Halloween trick or treat set for Oct. 31

The Saipan Mayor's Office Halloween trick or treat will be held on Oct. 31 at the Sugar King Park starting at 6pm until supplies last.

For any questions or more information, contact the Saipan Mayor's Office at (670) 234-6208. Office hours are Monday through Friday, from 7:30am to 4:30pm. The Saipan Mayor's Office is also open through lunch. (PR)

"I am intrigued by the security field as it relates closely to some of the mis-



JC Cadua's photo taken last Oct. 27 at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

sions, I've been a part of in the military. This degree provides an opportunity for me to pursue a leadership position in the realm of homeland security policy, emergency management coordination, disaster recovery planning, and cybersecurity consulting with other federal/state level agencies and private sector entities as I transition out of the military in the future," said the 26-year-old.

Cadua has a degree in AAS (Associate of Applied Science) in Criminal Justice from the Community College of the U.S. Air Force, a BA in Homeland Security from American Military University, and now an MS from Trident University International.

"I was able to accomplish this with a mix of online and in-person classes, primarily online since I am active duty military," he said.

Born and raised on Saipan, Cadua is a 2016 alumnus of Marianas High School and immediately enlisted into the U.S. Air Force right after his graduation and been active on active duty since (for eight years and five months).

Cadua is the son of Roger Cadua, who was known as "Elvis Presley" singing at sunset cruises & many known establishments around the island of the CNMI, and Chato Cadua.

He is married to Nathally Cadua, who also grew up on Saipan, and they have one son, Levi.

He is currently stationed at Patrick Space Force Base, Florida, and will be moving to Korea next week for his next assignment.

Cadua plans on finishing his 20 years with the Air Force and continue to tackle other goals personally and professionally.

Cadua would like to thank God and his family—father Roger Cadua, his mother Chato Cadua, his wife Nathally, his son Levi, his brother JR, and close friends.

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PALACIOS

From page 1

official statement regarding the initial round of consultations pursuant to Section 902 of the Covenant between the CNMI and the U.S. federal government that concluded last week on Saipan.

According to Palacios, the delegation he and special representative of the U.S. President (for 902 consultations) and Department of Interior assistant secretary Carmen G. Cantor led discussed a course toward expanded financial sustainability, and accordingly, higher standards of living for CNMI residents.

Palacios said the aim of the 902 consultations, which he requested in a letter to U.S. President Joseph Biden last April 26, was to focus on three priority areas: financial assistance initiatives that are discussed in Article 7 of the Covenant; tourism and transportation issues; and access to skilled labor in the CNMI.

However, Palacios said because of the time limitations, the delegations from the U.S. and the CNMI agreed to focus their discussions on the first topic for the initial consultation meetings.

"The discussions last week were open, candid, and productive. I'm grateful to assistant secretary Cantor for her willingness to focus our discussions on the urgent items that are directly aligned with the provisions of the Covenant aimed at achieving 'a progressively higher standard of living' for the people of the CNMI. We're also thankful that the first consultation meeting was held in the CNMI so

that the U.S. federal team will be able to see firsthand some of the challenges and opportunities here," said Palacios.

Palacios also notes that 902 discussions did not end last week and will continue throughout the next few weeks.

"Our dialogue will continue over the next few days and weeks as we work toward objectives and agreements that will mutually benefit both the CNMI and the federal government," he said.

Palacios' delegation, who will join him in these series of talks with the federal government, include: Michael Sablan, former CNMI public auditor and business representative; Matthew DeLeon Guerrero, economist, Northern Marianas College; Wesley Bogdan, retired CNMI Superior Court associate judge; Edmund Villagomez, CNMI House of Representatives Speaker; Edith DeLeon Guerrero, president of the CNMI Senate; Donald Manglona, CNMI senator and Rota representative; Phillip Mendola-Long, Tinian Chamber of Commerce and Tinian representative; Matthew Adams, legal counsel; Tracy Norita, secretary, CNMI Department of Finance; Leila Staffler, secretary, CNMI Department of Labor; Frankie Eliptico, vice president-OAA, Northern Marianas College; Tina Sablan, senior policy advisor, Office of the Governor; Elizabeth Balajadia, CIP director; Virginia Villagomez, OMB director; and Marie Coleman.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

VOTING

From page 1

of the building all waiting for their turn to cast their votes during the early voting phase of this year's election.

Susan Babauta, CEC board chair, said she is encouraging more people to take advantage of the early voting phase of the election.

"Today is the beginning of early voting and we are wanting all the voters to please come out and vote and get your voices heard. Polls have officially opened, and we will be here all throughout this week until Nov. 4 so let's vote!" she said.

Casting her vote at exactly 8:30am was CNMI Republican Party delegate candidate

Kimberlyn King-Hinds who marched into the polling cite after running 3 miles just to get there.

"It was important for me to set an example by literally running to the polls this morning to cast my vote and I hope you all do the same. I think it is important to get people to come out and vote. For me, it's not just about me running for delegate and me asking you to come out to vote for me. Elections are an important part of deciding, as a community, where we're headed or where we're not. So, if you don't come out and have your voices heard, then you're not weighing in on the current situation," she said.

Citing another business shutdown following *Saipan Tribune's* closure announcement, King-Hinds said this is

the time for the community to decide on what direction they would like to head toward.

"When you wake up in the morning and the first thing you see is another business shutting down, one that has been such an institution in our community, the only thing that I tell myself is that 'it shouldn't be this way.' There are better ways, and we need to work collectively to pursue the same direction. For me, that's ensuring that everybody's kitchen table is protected. I've known the people who work for the *Saipan Tribune* for a long time, their kitchen table is about to be stripped away because they're losing their jobs. Politics aside, that breaks my heart because I don't have the means to provide for every single person. The only

thing I can do as a candidate is advocate for policies that ensure that these opportunities are there, so CNMI we need to come out and let your voice be heard. This is an important part of our democracy. You can complain about a lot of things, but the way to go about this is to not complain and come out and vote to let your voices be heard. We have seven days between now and election day so let's rally together, invite your friends and family and let's pull up to the polling place and let's decide where we're going to go. I hope you see what I see and what I see is an opportunity for something better. Let's do this CNMI, I love you," she said.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

PRETEEN

From page 1

handgun inside a restroom at the Chalan Piao school yesterday morning.

According to Department of Public Safety assistant chief of police and acting public information officer Simon T. Manacop, the incident, reported at 9:41am, prompted immediate shelter-in-place protocols across the HMS campus, as officers rushed to the area.

He shared that several students reported a male student had threatened and pointed a gun at fellow students in the school's restroom. The report triggered heightened concern, leading school authorities to secure students and faculty in their classrooms to ensure safety until further notice, and parents were encouraged not to go to the campus. Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence Camacho was also immediately notified, and PSS Central Incident Command System Team joined DPS on-site to actively manage the situation.

The William S. Reyes El-

ementary School and the Chalan Kanoa Head Start/Early Head Start Center also initiated shelter-in-place protocol as a precautionary measure.

Investigators from the Criminal Investigation Bureau quickly traced the student to a building in Chalan Piao, near the school. Following a search of the student's residence in Chalan Kanoa, detectives found an air-powered toy pistol, identified as the object used in the incident. By 12:15pm, officials deemed the campus safe, lifting the shelter-in-place order and allowing normal activities to resume.

Manacop shared with the media that the student involved was released to the custody of his parents as investigation continues. While no formal arrest has been made, DPS indicates that an investigation remains ongoing to assess any further actions. The incident is currently known as a disturbing the peace incident.

Saipan Tribune reached out to PSS and Camacho reassured the public that students and all public education stakeholders safety remains paramount.

"Our strengthened partnership with relevant departments, particularly the Department of Public Safety, is part of our overall plan that ensures that our schools remain safe for all of our public education stakeholders, including students, teachers and staff, parents and the community," he shared. "We conduct drills on a regular basis to stay current and as part of a plan to ensure maximum protection and safety for everyone in all of our public elementary, middle, and high schools."

Camacho also released a letter to PSS student families, urging parents and guardians to take proactive steps to ensure student safety following recent reports of contraband on school grounds. Camacho emphasized, "We are reaching out from a place of shared concern and care for the well-being of our children."

Camacho's message also encourages families to address weapon safety at home by focusing on five key areas—educating children, ensuring secure storage, accessing community resources, main-

taining open dialogue, and supporting safety initiatives. He urged parents to have open conversations to help children understand the risks, noting, "Helping children understand the risks associated with weapons can prevent curiosity from turning into danger."

For families who keep weapons at home, Camacho stressed that "secure storage is essential," reminding parents that locking and storing weapons out of reach "is a responsible choice that minimizes the risk of accidents." He also recommended families reach out to school counselors to access local resources and safety programs.

Camacho urged parents to be vigilant in every environment their children enter, advising them to ask about weapon safety in other households, as "most people understand the importance of ensuring all children's safety." His closing message to parents emphasized shared responsibility: "Together, we can foster a culture of safety and responsibility that protects our children."

SABLAN

From page 1

unable to award the CNMI over \$5 million under the Energizing Insular Communities grant program for failure to respond to multiple criteria.

The EIC grant would ultimately help the CNMI achieve its renewable energy and energy efficiency goals.

In a memorandum to Cabinet members, Palacios designated Sablan to be his point of contact and lead in the resubmission of this grant application.

"I have directed Ms. Sablan to work closely with the CNMI agencies and our technical advisors at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory to address OIA's concerns and ensure that the CNMI's

proposals meet all criteria required by the notice of funding opportunity, including consultation with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and sufficient details regarding project goals and implementation. Please extend your timely responses and full cooperation to Ms. Sablan as she assumes this responsibility. I note that revised and new project proposals are due to OIA no later than Dec. 15, 2024," said Palacios.

According to Cantor's letter, after review and consideration, in consultation with a subject matter expert review panel, OIA was unable to award funding for the projects as proposed by the applicants from the CNMI.

"OIA remains committed to assisting the CNMI in achiev-

ing its renewable energy and energy efficiency goals and is reserving \$5.25 million of the FY 2024 EIC funds through Dec. 15, 2024 for current proposals once fully developed or for new proposal which implement local energy plans. OIA has requested that the National Renewable Energy Laboratory assist the CNMI government and the CUC with this task," said Cantor.

Cantor explains that overall, the applications submitted failed to respond to multiple criteria required by the notice of funding opportunity, including consultation with the local utility and sufficient details regarding project goals and implementation.

"This was especially true of the proposals for grid-tied solar photovoltaic systems.

These proposals did not acknowledge or demonstrate consultation between the applicant and the utility, CUC, regarding grid interconnection requirements. This is of great concern, as OIA has previously funded utility scale PV systems in the CNMI that have been unable to be commissioned due to insufficient consultation with CUC. This complaint was most recently reiterated during the 2024 Territorial Climate and Infrastructure Workshop," she said.

Cantor said the NREL team, headed by Philip Voss, are standing by to work with the CNMI to develop these projects for award and implementation.

"Revised and newly proposed project proposals are due no later than Dec. 15, 2024," Cantor said.

MVA joins Asia Dive Expo Japan in Tokyo

The Marianas joined diving destinations from around the globe in promoting its world-class diving and other attractions at Asia Diving Expo Japan held last Friday, Oct. 25, through Sunday, Oct. 27, in Tokyo.

ADEX is one of the largest and longest-running diving exhibitions in Asia and attracted an estimated 40,000 participants this year on its 30th anniversary. The three-day event presented diverse activities and attractions, including



The Marianas Visitors Authority promotes diving and other attractions at Asia Dive Expo Japan on Oct. 25-27, 2024, at Tokyo Big Sight in Tokyo. The trade show attracted an estimated 40,000 attendees.

immersive dive experiences, interactive workshops, marine conservation talks, underwater photography and videography showcases, cutting-edge diving gear displays, and more.

"ADEX is a celebration of the ocean, and the diving attractions on Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands are second to none in the world in that celebration," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "ADEX is an opportunity for the Marianas to showcase our award-winning offerings—cavern dive Grotto, snorkeling at Mañagaha, extraordinary dive instructors like Megumi Takaku of Blue Palms Dive Service Rota, and many more—that have been recognized throughout the years. With ADEX expanding to Japan for the first time this year, it was an excellent opportunity for the MVA to woo more Japanese divers and ocean-lovers to choose the Marianas as their next overseas travel destination. The dive industry has traditionally been a smaller but more lucrative and environmentally conscious market as they are known to be high spenders with a deeper commitment to sustainable tourism and environmental protection. For



MVA The Asia Dive Expo Japan at Tokyo Big Sight in Tokyo attracted an estimated 40,000 attendees.

the Marianas, Japan has historically dominated this niche market since the founding of our tourism industry almost 50 years ago."

Over 3,000 show attendees stopped by the MVA booth to get more information about the Marianas. In addition, the

MVA conducted a promotional campaign for its Japanese Instagram account, gaining 1,100 new followers over the three-day event.

Direct three-hour flights to Saipan from Tokyo-Narita are operated three times a week by United Airlines. (PR)

SULC gives away free reading glasses on World Sight Day



Saipan Unity Lions Club District 204 Vision co-chair Lindie Mae Molen and president Caroline Tamparong joined club members in distributing free reading glasses to 171 individuals during Sabalu Market in Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe last Saturday, Oct. 26.



Saipan Unity Lions Club distributed free reading glasses to 171 individuals during Sabalu Market at the Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe last Saturday, Oct. 26.

SULC District 204 Vision co-chair Lindie Mae Molen and president Caroline Tamparong joined club members during the distribution event.

World Sight Day, established in 2000 through the Lions Club International Foundation's SightFirst Campaign, is a significant global event focused on preventing blindness and supporting those with visual impairments. The foundation's collaboration with the World Health Organization facilitates global outreach. Events like this serve as important reminders to prioritize eye care and appreciate the value of vision. (PR)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

for the
Kagman Watershed Flood Protection and Irrigation Supply Project Supplemental Watershed Plan- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Pacific Islands Area (PIA) is preparing an EIR/EIS for the Kagman Watershed Flood Protection and Irrigation Supply Project (KWP) Supplemental Watershed Plan. As the Federal lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), NRCS will hold two public meetings to gather input from interested agencies, parties, and individuals on the scope and content of the EIR/EIS.

Date: November 13, 2024
Location: Aqua Resort Club
9543, Chalan Pale Arnold, San Roque, Saipan, MP 96950
Time: 10 am and 6 pm

Verbal and written comments regarding the scope of the EIR/EIS will be accepted and recorded at the Public Scoping Meeting.

Comments can also be submitted during the public scoping period (**November 6, 2024 – December 11, 2024**) in any of the following formats without attending the scoping meeting:

- Email comments to Kagman.watershed@ghd.com with the subject line: "Kagman Watershed Project".
- Regular mail to GHD, Del Sol Building Beach Road Garapan PMB, Box 10000 Saipan MP 96950

Please submit comments **no later than 5:00 PM on Wednesday, December 11, 2024.**

Project Description

The project launched in 1993 to mitigate seasonal flooding and enhance irrigation systems to support agricultural development and community resilience. Six phases of the project have been completed, including the installation of irrigation distribution pipes, a constructed wetland, and flood mitigation infrastructure. Phases 1 through 3 addressed irrigation supply, while phases 4 through 6 focused on flood control. The completion of phase 6 in 2012 successfully mitigated flooding in the region, resulting in an estimated annual savings of \$386,000 (adjusted to 2024 values) due to reduced flood damage.

However, phases 7-9, which are essential for completing the irrigation supply portion of the project, remain unfinished. Phase 7 involves routing stormwater from the flood control system into an irrigation reservoir (Phase 8), while Phase 9 will complete the supply pump and pipeline to the regulating reservoir. These final phases also focus on improving groundwater recharge and addressing saltwater intrusion in the island's sole source aquifer.



In the 30 years since the project began, ground conditions have changed, necessitating a reanalysis of the remaining phases. The current update, through a SWP-ED, will reassess the remaining phases using new environmental data, bioengineering techniques, and stakeholder input, while also exploring alternative solutions to support the most technically, economically, socially, and environmentally sound approach to completing the Kagman Watershed Project.

Public Scoping Meeting – What to Expect

We are engaging in a scoping process to consider input from the public, agencies, and other stakeholders on issues that should be addressed in the environmental document. An in-person public scoping meeting will be held to inform you about the project, and to give you an opportunity to provide comments or concerns. Comments during the scoping period will become part of the public record and will be considered in developing the environmental document and defining the project scope. A purpose and need statement for the project, preliminary alternative concepts, an overview of the environmental process, project schedule, and other relevant information will be available for at these meetings.

Contact

For more information or to request alternative accommodations for accessing project information or for attending public scoping meetings, please email us at Kagman.watershed@ghd.com or call 670-488-0152. Requests for alternative accommodations to attend scoping meetings must be made 15 days prior to the meeting.


DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL


RFP NO.: DPW25-RFP No.: 42500005

SUBMISSION DATE: December 03, 2024 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**“Project Management Services for
PW 69 Project in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.



The project package will be available on or after **October 30, 2024** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

There will be a **Pre-Proposal Conference** for this project on **November 15, 2024**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 22, 2024** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ RAY N. YUMUL
 Secretary, DPW

/S/ BRIEN SERS NICHOLAS JR.
 Acting Director, Division of
 Procurement Services


**Commonwealth
Utilities Corporation**
Board of Directors


PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 et seq), the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") Board of Directors hereby informs the general public that the Board will hold a **Special Board Meeting on Thursday, October 31, 2024, at 9:00 AM**. The meeting will be held in the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building. The following agenda will be considered, and public attendance is welcome.

AMENDED AGENDA

- Preliminary Matters
 - Call to Order
 - Roll Call
 - Reading of Notice Calling Special Meeting
 - Adoption of Agenda
- Public Education about the Fuel Adjustment Charge to Combat Misinformation
- Financial Impact of Passage of Senate Bill 23-37
- Recent Breaches of Confidentiality by Former Employees
- Privatization of Power Generation
- Renewable Energy Plans
- Public Comments*
- Executive Session**
- Announcement
- Adjournment

/s/
JANICE A. TENORIO
CHAIRWOMAN

* In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by a recorded vote of the majority members of the governing body.

** All interested persons are welcome to attend and submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items. Public Comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes.

*** Pursuant to 1 CMC §9912, the CUC Board of Directors may vote to meet at any time in executive session, to consult with the Legal Counsel on matters deemed privileged and confidential.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Mark Rabago EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Trump had little regard for the Constitution while in office. He's an even bigger threat to the rule of law now

In 2017, Donald Trump placed his hand on the Bible and swore to "preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

But Trump repeatedly betrayed his oath of office.

Throughout his chaotic term as president, Trump abused his power and trampled the rule of law — all for personal gain and to punish perceived enemies. He sided with adversaries—namely Russia—instead of the United States. Worst of all, Trump's dark arts weakened America.

While some of Trump's most vocal critics question whether his behavior would qualify as treasonous, at the very least his indifference to the Constitution and unconditional support for Russia make his potential return to the White House—with broadened immunity powers—an even bigger threat to the country's safety and stability.

A recent court filing by special counsel Jack Smith laid bare how Trump refused to defend the Constitution against a domestic enemy. After Trump stoked the violent mob that stormed the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, an aide told him Vice President Mike Pence's life was in peril.

Trump replied, "So what?"

As MAGA supporters ransacked the building and hunted for his loyal lieutenant, Trump shrugged. Smith's filing sharpened the evidence that Trump knew he lost the election, but still conspired with lawyers, aides, campaign operatives, and some rioters to overturn the will of voters.

That should disqualify Trump for a second term. Indeed, he remains under criminal indictment for his role in thwarting the peaceful transfer of power. But it gets worse, as new evidence points to Trump's role as a modern Manchurian candidate.

During the pandemic, as Americans were dying and scrambling to get COVID-19 tests, Trump secretly sent test kits to Russian President Vladimir Putin, a forthcoming book by the iconic Washington Post reporter Bob Woodward detailed, and the Kremlin confirmed.

America first? More like Russia first.

Woodward's reporting demonstrates that Trump remains steadfastly loyal to Putin. Why is a mystery, though Trump's Russian ties run deep. After his real estate empire imploded in the 1990s, American banks stopped doing business with Trump. Russian investors bailed him out.

Russia also helped elect Trump in 2016, thanks to an influence campaign authorized by Putin. Trump claims Russia's role was a hoax, but a Republican-controlled Senate panel issued a nearly 1,000-page report that detailed extensive election interference, including contacts between Trump campaign advisers and Kremlin officials.

Donald Trump, left, and Russian President Vladimir Putin, right, shake hands at the beginning of a meeting at the Presidential Palace in Helsinki, Finland, in July of 2018. Pablo Martinez Monsivais Once in office, Trump went soft on Russia. He refused to condemn reports that Russia offered bounties for the killing of American troops. He pushed to admit

See **TRUMP** on Page 7



"TOO SCARY!"

Making Tourism Our Business: Envisioning a #MarianasAdventure

Adventure tourism is projected to increase 17% by 2030, according to some research estimates, and the Marianas is perfectly positioned to capitalize on this growing travel trend.

The Adventure Travel Trade Association defines adventure tourism as "a tourist activity that includes physical activity, cultural exchange, or activities in nature." It involves exploration or travel with a certain degree of risk (real or perceived), and which may require special skills and physical exertion.

Adventure tourism covers physical activity, natural environment, and/or cultural immersion. There are hard adventures or soft adventures, based on the level of risk, commitment, and skills required. Here in the Marianas where most of us live connected to the land and sea, you might say adventure is a way of life. There are a ton of adventures already available in our small islands for visitors, with the potential for more with some thoughtful entrepreneurship.

Soft adventures we have in spades...short-distance hiking in our limestone forests, snorkeling at award-winning Mañagaha and in other crystal clear-waters, kayaking and canoeing among manta rays and other marine life, free diving in Grotto, scenic aerial tours over Saipan, fishing of all types, horseback riding, sailing and other indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian cultural experiences, and more.

For the hard adventurer, the Marianas offers a wide variety of scuba diving options at award-winning sites, trekking through scenic and majestic landscapes, skydiving over the stunning lagoon and green hills of Saipan, camping in the rugged Northern Islands with its captivating image as the ultimate adventure destination, and more.

But really, there is still a lot of untapped potential that the Marianas Visitors Authority would love to see existing tourism partners and new entrepreneurs develop. How about a zipline through Marpi forest, or paragliding? Orienteering using a map and compass—either in the villages or the hills? Guided caving through the network of caves across our islands that hold historic, cultural, and geographical significance? More immersion experiences like latte site tours for visitors to understand the beauty and depth of our cultures? Thrilling rock climbing on our limestone cliffs? Seasonal and sustainable hunting of deer, goat,

By **CHRISTOPHER A. CONCEPCION**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Christopher A. Concepcion is the managing director of the Marianas Visitors Authority.



coconut crabs, and other wildlife?

If these tours were developed, the MVA would have an even stronger arsenal of promotional points to market to our main source markets and the rest of the world, showcasing our unique and adventurous way of life.

We can start by giving our visitors a sneak peak of what a Marianas adventure looks like today, from your personal perspective. The MVA has just launched the "Show Us Your #MarianasAdventure" video contest now through Nov. 14, 2024. Show us what your vision of a Marianas adventure looks like by submitting a video not longer than 60-seconds. We'll be selecting the Top 10 from all submissions to be shared on our social media, with the final winner being selected by popular vote—the highest number of "likes." We're excited to see all the entries, which we will use to help further promote the Marianas. For full contest details, visit our social media on Instagram@TheMarianas or Facebook@VisitTheMarianas. And we'll be giving the 1st place winner a roundtrip ticket for two from Saipan to Tokyo, so share your adventure with us today for a chance to win!

Due to its emphasis on nature, adventure tourism is the perfect type of sustainable tourism for our islands. It will allow visitors to unplug from the stress of the modern world and discover a world founded on indigenous values—respect for others, the environment, and self, and the interconnectedness of us all with the land, the ocean, and each other. It's an opportunity to step away from the crowds, develop and appreciate our own abilities, and gain a new perspective.

Let the Marianas Adventure begin!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

I ran for US Congress

In a little over one week, I'll be able to say that I ran for a seat in U.S. Congress and I [*insert the will of majority voters here*]. Up against an ever-thickening wall of partisan influence, nauseating political noise, and pandering party loyalists (formerly known as do-gooder, community activists), we mounted a simple campaign to offer a different choice—a choice beholden only to the collective interests of all who call the CNMI home, not to self-interests rooted on contrived party lines of red and blue.

Despite mounting pressures to keep up with the CNMI's political machines, I held firm in my conviction not to out my silent supporters through requests for public endorsements and much less through requests for donations of their hard-earned money to promote me. I suppose if I hadn't stopped drinking, \$200-\$250 tickets for happy hour with friends and other acquaintances might have sounded more alluring. But how could I reconcile in one hand lamenting the "suffering" and financial hardships of those we're looking to represent and with the other raising a toast to the extravagance of political hypocrisy? Well... I couldn't.

To be clear, I understand the need for and cost of advertising for exposure—and yes, we've invested into some signage and a bit of airtime—but I'm also of the belief that we live in a place where it is still possible to reach people through more direct and personal contacts absent the big money influence.

I put everything on the line for me personally, in part, to test that belief. Additionally, I put myself up for intense public scrutiny because I feel strongly about the need for inclusive, even-keeled representation in government (and I don't feel like the other candidates are representative of me). Our campaign has relied primarily on family and friends seeking support through direct networking whether in house-to-house visits, accidental meet-ups within the community, and other random engagements with people on the streets—you know, small community, grass-roots stuff. For those looking for more information about all of us candidates, we've had the great luxury of having been asked to participate in a variety of publicly streamed forums and one-on-one interviews hosted by various stakeholders in our community—we can be found on Facebook and YouTube at the very least.

While our campaign would have welcomed and likely benefited greatly from public endorsements and greater infusions of financial support, I (much to the chagrin of those closest to me) have yet to ask anyone for it. To date, our Committee-to-Elect James M. Rayphand, a duly incorporated non-profit organization, has only accepted and received "unsolicited" financial donations totaling less than \$5,000 through my mother, Jeanne H. Rayphand; my love and better-half, Ms. Marcia M. Nishimura; my brother, Benji Rayphand; my father, Sapuro J. Rayphand, and myself. I agreed to one small fundraiser of selling \$10 lunches

his oath and abuse his power. With no evidence of wrongdoing, he wants to imprison perceived enemies and critics, including Biden, former Republican U.S. Rep. Liz Cheney, Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg, and others. He threatened to execute former Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Mark Milley after a magazine article detailed the general's efforts to protect the U.S. from Trump.

Trump's track record demonstrates these are not idle musings. Former FBI Director James Comey, with his attorney, David Kelley, right, speaks to reporters after a day of testimony compelled by the GOP-led House Judiciary and Oversight committees, on Capitol Hill in Washington in December of 2018. J. Scott Applewhite As president, Trump pressured the U.S. Justice Department to investigate former FBI Director James Comey and FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe, two longtime law enforcement officials.

Prosecutors investigated Comey but he was not charged. Trump also told his chief of staff he wanted to "get the IRS on" Comey. An IRS audit found Comey overpaid his taxes. But Comey still spent thousands of dollars in legal and accounting fees to defend himself.

Trump also sicced the FBI and IRS on McCabe. The IRS launched an invasive audit. After a separate two-year investigation, a grand jury rejected efforts to indict McCabe. The judge in McCabe's case, a George W. Bush appointee, referred to Trump's efforts as something out of a "banana republic."

Trump's vindictiveness did not stop there. He pressured then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions to fire McCabe days before his retirement in 2018, costing the 22-year law enforcement official his pension benefits. McCabe's benefits were later reinstated as part of a legal settlement.

The U.S. Supreme Court's recent misguided ruling granting presidents broad immunity would enable Trump to abuse his power with impunity.

Two years ago, he called for terminating the Constitution in order to overturn the 2020 election and reinstate him as president. If elected again, Trump said he would be a dictator on Day One.

Trump betrayed his oath of office in other ways. He belittled the military. He ordered administration officials to ignore subpoenas from Congress, a coequal branch of government under the Constitution. He shared highly classified information with Russia's foreign minister.

There is a reason more than 100 Republican officials, including some who worked for Trump, have endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris for president.

Trump's pledge of allegiance is to Trump.

By **JIM RAYPHAND**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jim Rayphand is a former director of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc.



mainly because it also doubled as a message about healthy food choices and it gave me an opportunity to meet with people who ordered on my delivery routes to them. I explicitly asked the rest of our committee members—my niece and chairperson, Monisallynn I. Blas; treasurer, John Cabrera; secretary, Flory Wabol; my other siblings, Johnny Sam and Emi Norita along with their respective better halves, Maria "Kit" Iguel and Jeff Norita ... oh and of course, my Uncle Ezra Bualuay along with Algen Serio, Estak Estep, and Nancy just to name our core group—not to put money into the campaign to which they've responded in-kind with all the love and on-the-ground support that any man could ever want. I will never be able to fully express my gratitude and appreciation to each and every one of those closest to me, but I hope to make all of them proud through the work I aim to do on behalf of our entire Commonwealth as CNMI's next delegate in U.S. Congress.

As for the question of why anyone should vote for me? As I see it, I'm the only one of the candidates with actual experience of leading and directing a staff of people toward a common mission in service to our community and I've done so with a clear focus on service above self. More importantly, I've managed to do it without leaving any trail of questions about my integrity and without creating division within our respective offices much less our community at large.

Take away all the pomp and circumstance of this being a seat in U.S. Congress and what we're left with is an office of people tasked with fielding and responding to concerns of our community—that is precisely what I've been doing for the past 20 plus years. Ask around or better yet...Google it.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dangkulu na si Yu'us ma'ase'

The closure of the *Saipan Tribune* isn't just a loss for a newspaper; it's the end of a chapter that has connected us, informed us, and helped to shape our community in profound and impactful ways.

For many years, the *Saipan Tribune* has been our eyes and ears, a platform that brought our stories to light and gave voice to our hopes, struggles, and triumphs. They informed us about important issues, including those that touch upon our justice system and the work we do in corrections. They have reported on issues that matter to all of us.

As your commissioner, I have witnessed the essential role the media plays in fostering understanding and compassion within our community.

The *Saipan Tribune* didn't shy away from covering the difficult topics, but they did so with nuance and care. They brought to our attention the challenges we encountered, the importance of second chances, and the human stories behind the statistics.

With the *Saipan Tribune* gone, we lose not just a source of news, but a partner in fostering dialogue about the challenges we face and the changes we wish to see. It also makes us realize how vital it is to support and seek out local journalism. Without it, we risk losing the voices that keep us connected and informed about our shared journey.

Dangkulu na si Yu'us ma'ase' and thank you *Saipan Tribune* for being part of this resilient community. Together, let's continue to lift one another up and work toward a future where every voice is heard.

Anthony Torres

Department of Corrections Commissioner

TRUMP

From page 6

Russia into the G-7, a move other world leaders rejected.

In 2018, he dismissed U.S. intelligence findings that Russia interfered with the election. In a humiliating display of weakness, Trump met with Putin in Helsinki and meekly swallowed his claim of not interfering with the election.

"President Putin says it's not Russia. I don't see any reason why it would be," Trump said.

Former CIA Director John O. Brennan, who served six presidents, said Trump was in Putin's "pocket" and called his performance in Helsinki "treasonous."

Russia's election-influencing efforts did not stop there. The Kremlin mounted similar schemes in the 2020 election, and more sophisticated efforts to sway the 2024 election in Trump's favor.

Trump has repeatedly praised Putin, a former KGB spy who murdered critics, rigged elections, corruptly amassed enormous wealth, and is wanted for war crimes.

Trump called Putin "smart" and "tough." He even said Putin outsmarted America. In August, he congratulated Putin on a deal that brought American hostages home.

Even after leaving the White House, Trump remained in contact with Putin. The two spoke as many as seven times, according to Woodward's book.

The conversations occurred after Trump stole classified documents that included nuclear secrets and while he was pressuring Republican lawmakers to withhold funding to help Ukraine fend off the unprovoked attack by Russia.

It is unheard of to have a presidential candidate talking with a foreign leader, let alone an adversary. And it may be illegal since the Logan Act prohibits U.S. citizens from engaging in unauthorized diplomacy.

But the rule of law has never stopped Trump.

Trump accepted millions from foreign governments in an apparent violation of the Constitution's emoluments clause. He was impeached in 2019 for a shakedown scheme that involved pressuring Ukraine to dig up dirt on then-political rival, Joe Biden.

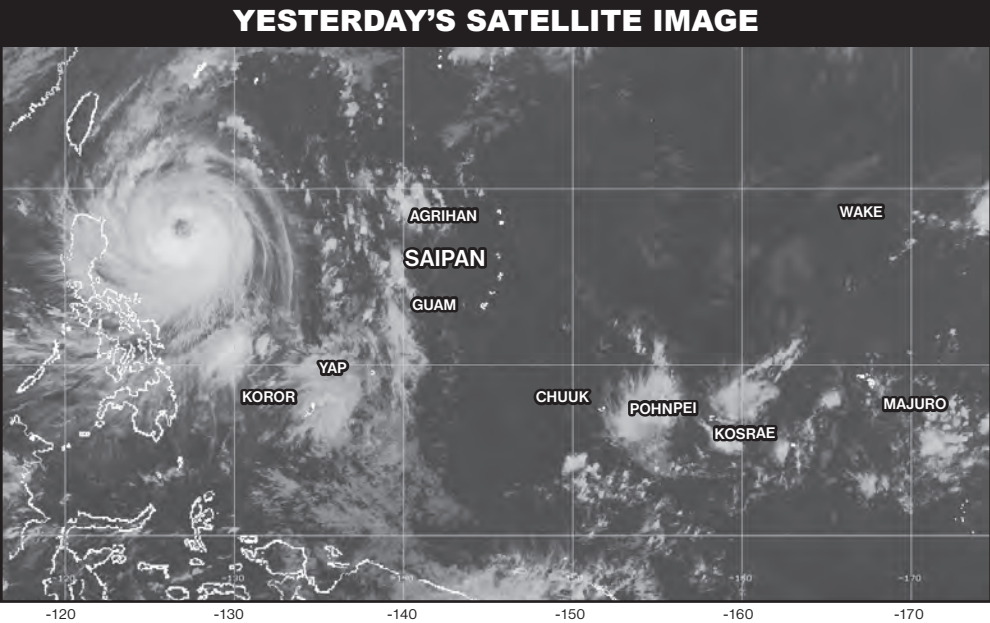
At the time, Joe Walsh, a former Republican congressman from Illinois, said simply: "Donald Trump is a traitor."

After leaving office, Trump was indicted for taking classified documents and showing them to others. He was convicted in May of paying off an adult film star to hide an alleged affair from the public that could have influenced the outcome of the 2016 election. He awaits sentencing.

If elected, Trump has already discussed plans to again betray

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
Isolated showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 85. East northeast wind 14 to 18 mph, with gusts as high as 28 mph.		Isolated showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 86. East northeast wind around 18 mph		A 30 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny		A chance of showers. Partly sunny		A chance of showers. Partly sunny	
85°	78°	86°	78°	86°	78°	86°	78°	85°	79°



PICTURE TIME: 5:34 AM TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2024

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Much drier air continues to arrive over the Marianas from the east, especially at mid levels of the atmosphere. Combined seas of 6 to 8 feet will continue to be choppy for some locations with opposing northeast to east swells and secondary southwest swells. Late last evening there were some much larger waves reported at Saipan/Tanapag Buoy, but recently combined seas have settle down closer to our wave guidance.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: <https://www.weather.gov/gum/>

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Sunny	84° / 78°	
Palau	Cloudy	85° / 78°	
Yap	Cloudy	85° / 78°	
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	86° / 77°	
Kosrae	Sunny	86° / 77°	
Majuro	Sunny	84° / 80°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:12 AM	5:48 PM
Thursday	6:12 AM	5:48 PM
Friday	6:13 AM	5:47 PM
Saturday	6:13 AM	5:47 PM
Sunday	6:13 AM	5:47 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	4:10 AM	4:20 PM	-
Thursday	4:56 AM	4:53 PM	-
Friday	5:43 AM	5:28 PM	-
Saturday	6:32 AM	6:07 PM	-
Sunday	7:24 AM	6:50 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	64° / 57°	
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	63° / 39°	
Hong Kong	Sunny	77° / 68°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	83° / 74°	
London	Partly Cloudy	54° / 46°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	73° / 60°	
Manila	Showers	88° / 77°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	64° / 52°	
Miami	Mostly Sunny	75° / 67°	
New York	Windy	58° / 50°	
Osaka	Sunny	64° / 48°	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	55° / 43°	
Busan	Sunny	64° / 50°	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	72° / 48°	
Salem	Sunny	64° / 42°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	61° / 49°	
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	61° / 43°	
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	61° / 48°	
Washington, DC	Sunny	58° / 43°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
12:34 AM	Low Tide	0.38	
6:34 AM	High Tide	1.54	
12:23 PM	Low Tide	0.62	
6:18 PM	High Tide	1.74	

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235.3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2024							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5	UA825	5:30PM	10:00PM	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	UA184	10:25PM	4:15AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA193	6:55PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:20PM	9:10PM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
				UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily up to Oct 26	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily up to Oct 26
				7C2306/3211	11:10PM	3:30PM+1	Daily from Oct 27
				UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM +1	2, 5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:30AM	6:25AM	Daily from Oct 28	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily up to Oct 26
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily up to Oct 27	7C3211	10:10AM	3:30PM	Daily from Oct 27
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily up to Oct 26	TW307	8:00PM	1:30AM+1	Daily up to Oct 27
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily up to Oct 26	TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily up to Oct 26
7C3212	4:35PM	8:25PM	Daily from Oct 27	7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily up to Oct 26
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX77	3:05AM	6:00AM	1, 5	HX76	6:25PM	1:35AM+1	4, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T*Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.					
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024					
SAIPAN TO ROTA					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday
GUAM TO ROTA					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday
SAIPAN TO TINIAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily
TINIAN TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

L O C A L

Pacific Islands criticize Australia at Commonwealth meeting



AP

Delegates attend the Foreign Ministers meeting at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Apia, Samoa, Thursday, Oct. 24, 2024.

APIA, Samoa (AP)—Several Pacific island nations singled out Australia to do more to phase out fossil fuel exports during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting which opened in Samoa on Thursday.

Tuvalu's Prime Minister, Feleti Teo, alongside senior officials from Vanuatu and Fiji, backed a new report from the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative, which highlights the significant role Australia, Canada and the U.K. play in global emissions.

The report said that fossil fuels extracted in the three nations were responsible for 60% of emissions generated by such extraction across Commonwealth countries since 1990, even though they represent only 6% of the Commonwealth's population.

The report's findings also point to a "stark imbalance in fossil fuel extraction" and criticize the contradictions between the climate pledges made by these countries and their ongoing efforts to expand fossil fuel

production, especially in Australia and Canada.

Pacific leaders have long warned that continued fossil fuel reliance threatens the very existence of their nations, many of which consist of low-lying islands that could be partly or wholly submerged by rising sea levels.

Teo, who earlier this year ratified a treaty with Australia to strengthen migration and security ties between the two countries as well as climate change mitigation, intensified his calls for Australia to phase out fossil fuel production, warning that current policies by major polluters amount to a "death sentence" for his nation.

"My view of that commitment is that Australia ... is highly morally obliged to ensure that whatever action it does will not compromise the commitment it has provided in terms of climate impact," Teo said at a press conference in Apia, the capital of Samoa.

"On that platform I'm hoping we'll be able to leverage Australia's support and hopefully that will translate into

reducing emission levels."

Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong, who is also in Samoa, said Australia is tackling the "big task" of transitioning its economy to net zero emissions, but cannot be held responsible for emissions from coal and gas exported to other countries.

Wong said that the "vast majority" of new coal-fired power plants are being built in China and other developing nations.

"Australia has to reduce its emissions, but the whole world—if we are going to combat sea level rise, temperature rising — the whole world will have to peak and reduce emissions," she said on Thursday.

It's the first time a Pacific Island has hosted the biennial leaders' summit and climate change is expected to occupy much of the summit's agenda. More than half of the Commonwealth's members are small countries like Samoa, many of them island nations among the world's most imperiled by rising seas.

Spring 2025 semester registration opens

The Guam Community College opened its Spring 2025 semester registration on Monday, Oct. 28, 2024. The class schedules are also available online.

New and returning students can register online at GuamCC.edu/Apply or in person at the Administration Building 2000, from Monday to Friday from 8am to 5pm. Academic advisors, financial aid personnel, and admissions staff will be available to assist students in Building 2000. The last day

to register for summer classes is Friday, Jan. 10, 2025.

Important email

» **Continuing students can register by logging in with their MyGCC account**

addresses and phone numbers:

■ **Admissions, registration, and academic advisement** gcc.registrar@guamcc.edu (671) 735-5531 extension 5529

■ **Financial aid** financialaid@guamcc.edu (671) 735-5543

■ **Health Services Center** gcc.healthcenter@guamcc.edu (671)735-5586

For clearance requirements log on to guamcc.edu/

HealthCenter

Important registration dates:

■ Last day of Spring registration: 5pm, Friday, Jan. 10, 2025

■ First day of Spring Semester: Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2025

The free application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, application is available online. The application is open and free to everyone. Use GCC's school code #015361 when prompted to be sure GCC financial aid office receives your application. Our financial aid team can also assist in filling out the FAFSA. (PR)

Business

IT&E, Cape introduce secure 4G/5G connectivity for US Navy



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

File photo of the U.S. Navy's fifth Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS *Abraham Lincoln*.

ARLINGTON, Virginia—Privacy-first mobile carrier Cape revealed progress on its work to deliver advanced telecommunications capabilities to the U.S. Navy, helping achieve 4G/5G connectivity with its partner IT&E in trials on the USS *Abraham Lincoln* up to 130 miles offshore.

In providing a viable alternative for high-bandwidth data connections, Cape and its partner IT&E, the leading provider of mobile technology in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, are delivering on the vision of Bob Stephenson, PACOM CIO, of "satellite at sea, 5G at port"—an ambition that was previously very challenging, particularly in volatile environments.

The USS *Abraham Lincoln* was able to attain 4G 5G data connections up to 30 nautical miles offshore coming into Guam, and up to 130 nautical miles offshore in the Philippines.

The team achieved steady speeds of 50 Mbps download, 25 Mbps upload and peaks of 160 Mbps download and 50 Mbps upload, comparable to Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite services.

At port, Cape's Strategic MVNO delivered a secure, high bandwidth 4G/5G connection, providing connectivity for the entire carrier and transferring over a terabyte of data in 24 hours.

Pier-side tests using Cape SIMs delivered data speeds 10-20 times faster than prepaid and roaming SIMs, with comparable download and 2-3 times faster upload speeds to an onboard satellite terminal.

The success on USS *Abraham Lincoln* underscores the important innovation that

the Navy is leading in adding more communications capabilities to our fleets by enhancing the security of commercial cellular and 5G. Using the Cape Strategic MVNO aboard a Navy aircraft carrier demonstrates the potential for the future of enabling cellular communications that are routed through a U.S.-owned, cloud-based core on ships around the world. Every soldier and sailor deployed to a country with one of Cape's expanding network of trusted, overseas Strategic MVNOs can communicate more securely.

Captain Kevin White,

» **Data transmission 3x faster, more secure than traditional systems**

Combat systems officer on the *Abraham Lincoln*, said, "Innovating is the lifeblood of the Navy. By developing additional high speed data connections using 4G/5G we help our sailors accomplish their mission."

The results also pave the way for using commercially deployed cellular infrastructure to communicate more securely on a variety of vessels and vehicles, enabling the military to gain the benefits of cellular's ability to support high-speed handoffs, using smaller form factors that require less power than other communication options like satellite can deliver, all while running on widely available local cellular networks.

Cape deploys a cloud-based ultra secure network on top of IT&E's physical RAN. As the USS *Abraham Lin-*

coln approached into cellular range, sailors onboard were able to start offloading data onto Cape's MVNO, which routes data directly from the IT&E local 4G and 5G cell sites to the Cape-managed, cloud-based core network for data transmission.

David Gibson, CEO of IT&E, said, "As the service provider with the largest network in the Marianas and Guam, we are proud to partner with the Navy and Cape to deliver innovation in connectivity. This partnership allows us to support national defense initiatives and our service men and women by ensuring seamless communication and reliable connections when and where it matters the most. Together, we're ensuring connectivity across the globe, both on land and at sea."

Cape's is working to improve secure connectivity throughout the INDOPACOM AOR using existing cellular infrastructure. Following on from our success in Guam, Cape is establishing Strategic MVNOs throughout INDOPACOM to serve the Navy and other USG customers.

"One of the values of Cape's work with IT&E and other operators is that it means users can have their data routed back to Cape's U.S.-owned and managed core network while on foreign networks," said John Doyle, CEO of Cape. "It's fantastic to see our tech is able to securely protect the data of members of the Navy and encourages what this means for secure protection of our users more broadly."

To learn more about Cape, visit www.cape.co. (PR)

World

Duterte says he had 'death squad' as mayor

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Former Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte told a Senate inquiry Monday that he had maintained a "death squad" of gangsters to kill other criminals when he was mayor of a southern Philippine city.

» But didn't order killings as PH president

Duterte, however, denied authorizing police to gun down thousands of suspects in a bloody crackdown on

illegal drugs he had ordered as president and which is the subject of an investigation by the International Criminal Court as a possible crime against humanity.

Duterte, 79, attended the televised inquiry in his first public appearance since his

term ended in 2022. The Senate is looking into the drug killings under Duterte, which were unprecedented in their scale in recent Philippine history.

Duterte acknowledged without elaborating that he once maintained a death

squad of seven "gangsters" to deal with criminals when he was the longtime Davao city mayor, before he became president.

"I can make the confession now if you want," Duterte said. "I had a death squad of seven, but they were not policemen, they were also gangsters."

"I'll ask a gangster to kill somebody," Duterte said. "If you will not kill (that person), I will kill you now."

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel III, who was overseeing the inquiry, and Sen. Risa Hon-tiveros, pressed Duterte to provide more details but the former president responded in unclear terms and said he would explain further in the next hearing.

Often cursing during the hearing, Duterte said he would take full responsibility for the killings that happened while he was president from 2016 to 2022. But he said he never ordered his national police chiefs, who also attended the inquiry, to undertake extrajudicial killings.

"Did I ever tell you to kill any criminal?" Duterte asked

his former police chiefs. They included Ronald dela Rosa, the current senator who first enforced Duterte's campaign against illegal drugs as his national police chief.

"No, Mr. president," dela Rosa responded.

Aside from the International Criminal Court's investigation, there have been no known criminal complaints filed against Duterte in Philippine courts over the killings.

"I'm puzzled why the Justice Department hasn't filed any case," Duterte said. "I've been killing people for a long time and they haven't filed any case up to now?"

Former Sen. Leila de Lima, one of the most vocal critics of Duterte who once investigated the drug killings in Davao, said there were adequate evidence and witnesses of the extrajudicial killings but they were scared of testifying against Duterte when he was in power.

De Lima was arrested early on in Duterte's presidency on drug charges she said were fabricated to stop her from proceeding with her Senate investigation. She was cleared of the charges and released from more than six years of detention last year.



Duterte

AS ISRAEL STRIKES DEEPER INTO LEBANON

Fear rises in communities where displaced took refuge

AITO, Lebanon (AP)—Dany Alwan stood shaking as rescue workers pulled remains from piles of rubble where his brother's building once stood.

An Israeli airstrike destroyed the three-story residential building in the quiet Christian village of Aito a day before. His brother, Elie, had rented out its apartments to a friend who'd fled here with relatives from their hometown in southern Lebanon under Israeli bombardment.

Things were fine for a few weeks. But that day, minutes after visitors arrived and entered the building, it was struck. Almost two dozen

people were killed, half of them women and children. Israel said it targeted a Hezbollah official, as it has insisted in other strikes with high civilian death tolls.

This strike—in northern Lebanon, deep in Christian heartland—was particularly unusual. Israel has concentrated its bombardment mostly in the country's south and east and in Beirut's southern suburbs—Shiite-majority areas where the Hezbollah militant group has a strong presence.

Strikes in the traditionally "safe" areas where many displaced families have fled are raising fears among lo-

cal residents. Many feel they have to choose between helping compatriots and protecting themselves.

"We can't welcome people anymore," Alwan said as rescue teams combed through the rubble in Aito. "The situation is very critical in the village, and this is the first time something like this has happened to us."

Aito is in the Zgharta province, which is split between Christian factions who are supporters and critics of Hezbollah.

Some Christian legislators critical of Hezbollah have warned of the security risks

that could come with hosting displaced people, mostly from the Shia Muslim community. They worry that many may have familial and social ties to Hezbollah, which in addition to its armed wing has civilian services across southern and eastern Lebanon.

Some also worry that long-term displacement could create demographic changes and weaken the Christian share in Lebanon's fragile sectarian power-sharing system. The tiny country has a troubled history of sectarian strife and violence, most notably in a 15-year civil war that ended in 1990.

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THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

N. Korea sends foreign minister to Russia as its troops train to fight in Ukraine

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea said Tuesday its top diplomat is visiting Russia, in another sign of their deepening relations as rival South Korea and Western nations say the North has sent thousands of troops to support Russia's war in Ukraine.

North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency said a delegation led by Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui departed for Russia on Monday, but didn't specify the purpose of the visit.

The announcement of Choe's visit came hours after the Pentagon said North Korea has sent about 10,000 troops to Russia, who are expected to arrive in battlefields in Ukraine within "the next several weeks."

South Korean and Western leaders have expressed concern that North Korean involvement could help prolong Russia's aggression in Ukraine, and that Russia may offer technology in return that could advance the threat posed by North Korea's nuclear weapons and missile program.

Pentagon spokesperson Sabrina Singh told report-

ers Monday that some of the North Korean soldiers have already moved closer to Ukraine and were believed to be heading for the Kursk border region, where Russia has been struggling to push back a Ukrainian incursion.

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol in telephone calls with European Union Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte on Monday shared South Korean intelligence assessments that North Korean troops could be deployed to battlefronts "more quickly than anticipated." He called for closer coordination with European governments aimed at "monitoring and blocking" illegal exchanges between Pyongyang and Moscow, Yoon's office said in a statement.

After initially denying the claims about North Korean troop deployments, Pyongyang and Moscow have adopted a vaguer stance, asserting that their military cooperation conforms with international law without directly admitting the presence of North Korean forces in Russia.

Life & Style

'Diddy' accused in new lawsuits of sexually assaulting 10- and 17-year-old boys

NEW YORK (AP)—Sean “Diddy” Combs is accused in one of two lawsuits filed Monday of drugging and sexually assaulting a 10-year-old boy in a New York City hotel room in 2005.

The second lawsuit accuses the jailed hip-hop mogul of similarly assaulting a 17-year-old would-be contestant on the reality television series “Making the Band” in 2008.

The lawsuits filed in state Supreme Court in New York are the latest in a wave of lawsuits in which accusers allege they were sexually assaulted by Combs at parties and meetings over the last two decades.

Combs’ lawyers denied the two new claims Monday and accused the plaintiffs’ lawyer, Anthony Buzbee, who also represents accusers in earlier lawsuits, of seeking publicity.

“Mr. Combs and his legal team have full confidence in the facts and the integrity of the judicial process,” an emailed statement said. “In court, the truth will prevail: that Mr. Combs never sexually assaulted or trafficked anyone—man or woman, adult or minor.”

Combs, 54, is incarcerated in a New York City jail after pleading not guilty to federal



AP
Sean “Diddy” Combs arrives at the LA Premiere of “The Four: Battle For Stardom” at the CBS Radford Studio Center on May 30, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Boy Records founder, according to the lawsuit.

The boy eventually lost consciousness. When he awoke, Combs threatened to badly hurt the child’s parents if he told anyone what happened, the filing said.

In a second lawsuit, a 17-year-old unidentified male said Combs forced him into sexual acts with Combs and a bodyguard during a three-day audition for the “Making the Band” television show, which Combs produced.

When the aspiring contestant expressed reservations, he was eliminated from the competition and unable to return to the music industry for seven years, according to the filing.

Both lawsuits were brought under New York City’s Victims of Gender-Motivated Violence Protection Act, which allows survivors to bring lawsuits even if the statute of limitations has passed.

Bezos defends *Washington Post*’s decision not to endorse as the right, ‘principled’ one

NEW YORK (AP)—Billionaire *Washington Post* owner Jeff Bezos on Monday defended the newspaper’s decision not to endorse a presidential candidate as “right” and “principled” and pushed back against any notion that he ordered it up to protect his business interests.

That decision, announced Friday, has reportedly led to tens of thousands of people canceling their subscriptions and protests from journalists with a deep history at the newspaper. The Post’s editorial staff was prepared to endorse Democrat Kamala Harris before publisher Will Lewis wrote instead that it would be better for readers to make up their own minds.

Bezos, in “a note from our owner” published Monday evening, said that editorial endorsements create a perception of bias at a time many Americans don’t believe the media, and do nothing to tip the scales of an election.

“Ending them is a principled decision, and it’s the right

one,” Bezos said.

Bezos wrote that he wished the decision to end presidential endorsements had been done earlier, “in a moment further from the election and the emotions around it. That was inadequate planning, and not some intentional strategy.”

Bezos’ decision caused an unprecedented spasm of anger both within journalism and outside it.

NPR reported on Monday that more than 200,000 people have canceled their subscriptions to the newspaper, citing “two people at the paper with knowledge of internal matters.” A Post spokeswoman, Olivia Petersen, would not comment on the NPR report.

A loss of subscriptions of that magnitude would be a blow to a storied news outlet that is already facing financial headwinds. The Post had more than 2.5 million subscribers last year, the bulk of them digital, making it third behind The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal

in circulation.

In the decision’s wake, two of the newspaper’s columnists quit, and three of the nine members of the editorial board resigned their posts. The Post’s retired former editor, Martin Baron, who was editor when Bezos bought the paper, had denounced the decision on social media as “cowardice, with democracy as its casualty.”

The Post’s decision came only days after the Los Angeles Times also said it would not endorse a presidential candidate, which the newspaper has acknowledged has cost them thousands of subscribers.

Some critics suggested Bezos, also owner of Amazon, ordered the non-endorsement to protect his business interests, acting out of fear of retaliation if Donald Trump were elected. The Post endorsed Trump’s Democratic rivals in 2016 and 2020, and Trump has often denounced critical coverage by the paper.

sex trafficking charges contained in an indictment unsealed the day after his Sept. 16 arrest. Charges include allegations he coerced and abused women and silenced victims through blackmail and violence.

The 10-year-old boy who was not identified in the law-

suit was an aspiring actor and rapper who had traveled with his parents from California for meetings with music industry representatives. During what was supposed to be an audition for Combs, he was given a drug-laced soda by a Combs’ associate and sexually assaulted by the Bad

‘The Simpsons’ will be part of MNF alternate broadcast on Dec. 9

BRISTOL, Conn. (AP) — Ay, Caramba! Bart and Homer Simpson, meet “Monday Night Football.”

The Dec. 9 Monday night game between the Cincinnati Bengals and Dallas Cowboys will also air from Atoms Stadium in Springfield as part of an alternate telecast.

“The Simpsons Funday Football” telecast will be streamed on ESPN+ and Disney+ while the game airs on ESPN and ABC.

This is the second year ESPN has done an alternate broadcast for an NFL game. It used the characters from “Toy

Story” for last year’s Sunday morning game from London between the Atlanta Falcons and Jacksonville Jaguars.

In this iteration, Bart will team up with the Bengals while Homer joins the Cowboys. Others Simpsons characters, including Marge, Lisa and Maggie, will also be featured.

Producers for “The Simpsons” will also have original content for the telecast that will be utilized before, during and after the game.

ESPN has been successful with alternate broadcasts of NFL games, including

the “ManningCast” during “Monday Night Football” and playoff games.

The telecast will be entirely animated, with the players’ movements in sync with what is happening in real time on the field. That’s done through player-tracking data enabled by the NFL’s Next Gen Stats system and Beyond Sports.

Beyond Sports, a company based in the Netherlands, will mostly be responsible for the player animation and making sure the player tracking data works with the animated product.

Disparity of sex drives may stall relationship

DEAR ABBY: I’m a woman in my early 20s, and I have been dating my man for two years. I love him dearly and want to spend the rest of my life with him. He plans to propose before the end of the year, and we plan to be married next year.

Sex with him is fabulous. However, I have a very active libido (probably similar to that of a teenage boy), and I’d be good with having sex every morning, day and night. He, on the other hand, is good with once a week, if that. I feel deprived and sad. We have discussed this, and he claims he knows he needs to improve, but there has been no change.

I don’t know if I want to say “I do” if this is what marriage to him will be like. I am afraid of him proposing now because I’m not sure I can marry him if he’s not into sex as much as I am. Sex is an extremely important activity in my life. I had amazing sex with a previous boyfriend and have actually contemplated reaching out to him. (I wouldn’t cheat.)

Must I settle? I don’t want to miss out on having sex as often as I want it. It doesn’t feel fair to me. I don’t want to end the relationship because he’s everything else I want. He’s a good man, loving, generous, kind, thoughtful, funny, intelligent, a great conversationalist, fun, adventurous, but with almost no sex drive. Can you offer any insight?

MISERABLE IN MISSISSIPPI

DEAR MISERABLE: You are young and, I assume, there isn’t a great age difference between you and your boyfriend. When this otherwise ideal man pops the question, your response should be that before you accept his proposal, you want the two of you to have premarital counseling. During some of those sessions, bring up the disparity in your sex drives. There may be more than one way to solve your problem. Discuss this with a licensed sex therapist who can help you explore how you can be more satisfied without your boyfriend feeling “forced to perform.”

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I became a grandmother 20 years ago. My first grandchild was biracial, and I suspect that’s the reason my best friend, “Dori,” never acknowledged her. When I sent her photos by mail a few times, they went unacknowledged.

Now, 20 years later, Dori has finally become a grandmother through adoption. Although I am happy for her, it stings that my four grandchildren were ignored. I have sent generous baby gifts. How do I move past my resentment without making a fuss? I don’t want my grandchildren to ever meet her, as I feel any interest would be idle curiosity and not sincere. Dori has never even asked me their names.

BITTER IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR BITTER: Why do you refer to this woman as a “best friend”? From what you have written, Dori stopped being your friend 20 years ago. You were thoughtful to have sent her grandchild “generous gifts” (or any gift at all). As I see it, there is more than one way to deal with this situation. The first would be to air your feelings to Dori. The second is to continue living your life without her in a starring role.

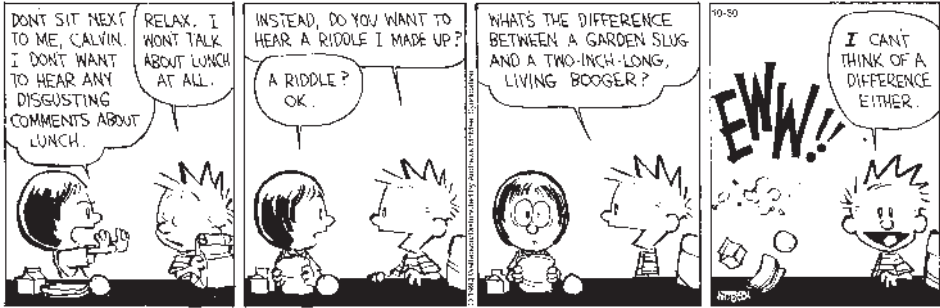
■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 27 Ornate vase 28 Claw 30 Drone 33 Restaurant 36 Gems 38 Houston 39 Avenue 40 Collection 41 Literary 12 — Park 14 Get up 15 Private aid gp. 19 Little lie 20 Baseball fan's 21 Vegas area 22 Jousting needs 23 Anon 24 Dr. Frankenstein's creation 25 Bottom line 26 Ecstasy 28 — Haute 29 Dole out 30 Impairs 31 "The Haj" author 32 ISP choice 34 Toppers 35 Inventor Jethro

DOWN 1 Long 2 Coral 3 Forced (upon) 4 Get clean 5 "Melrose Place" actor Rob 6 "Up and —" 7 Really, really 8 Annie of "Ghost-busters" 9 Scents 10 Scoundrel 11 Playful cove critters 13 Make unrea-sonable demands 16 Uno + uno 17 Locations 18 Coffee holder 19 Own (up) 20 Roman censor 21 Trom-bone part 23 Huge success 25 Attempt 26 Animated Betty

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 10-30

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Mat-thew Morrison, 46; Gavin Rossdale, 59; Harry Hamlin, 73; Henry Winkler, 79.

Happy Birthday: Don't sound the alarm this year. Take care of unfinished business and save time, money and grief. Be original, inventive and disciplined; the outcome will exceed your expectations. Give yourself breathing room and the strength and courage to do what's best for you instead of con-forming to someone else's plan. Life is about free-dom; live and let live. Hit the reset button. Your numbers are 7, 18, 21, 25, 32, 37, 43.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Put your en-ergy where it counts. Don't waste time or money trying to appease others when what you achieve will have a much more signifi-cant impact on your life. Protect your home, fam-ily and possessions from outside influences and scammers. Don't believe everything you hear; do your research. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You know the rules. Feel free to point out right from wrong or say no to something that isn't right. Know when to walk away, set boundaries and reject expenses you cannot justify. Learn all you can and only agree to what benefits you. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Look at every detail, evaluate options and set your sights on what's feasible. Treat every choice and opportunity as a learning ex-perience, and you will discover how to get the most out of your situation. Self-improvement, communication and educational pursuits are in your best interest. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your strengths are your discipline, courage to follow your instincts and desire to put your mind at ease. The choices you make and the changes that result are up to you. Don't sit on the sidelines when action is necessary to reach your destination of choice. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Let-ting your emotions rule and acting out of instinct will tempt you when patience is required to avoid a costly mistake. Listen to rea-son, not someone trying to convince you to do something that benefits them more than you. Pro-tect what you have by saying no. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stop sit-ting on the sideline. Embrace opportuni-ties; it will rejuvenate and recharge you and encourage you to turn your expectations into something tangible. Organize your space to add convenience and enhance your ability to accom-plish your goal. A positive attitude will make a difference. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take care of matters personally. Lower your over-head and say no to indulgent suggestions. Rely on your emotions and heart to steer you in the right direction instead of letting someone lead you astray. Personal gain begins with good choices and a healthy lifestyle. Trust in you. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Bypass anyone using emotional manipulation to point you in the wrong direction. Think for yourself and put your energy into what ben-efits you most. Use your imagination to enforce

discipline, strength and courage; the result will exceed your expectations. Act out of peace and love, not anger. **

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EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Refuse to let love, emotions and trying to please others get in your way when a choice arises. Weigh the pros and cons. An opportunity is only worthwhile if you can afford the offer. Don't leave your fate in someone else's hands. Take the path you can control. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep your financial situation to yourself. Do your research and set doable goals. Tak-ing a risk will fall short of your expectations. Be smart and avoid unnecessary stress. Simplicity and moderation will serve you well mentally and financially. Focus on health, diet and emotional well-being. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Trying to please or impress someone will have dis-advantages. Be more observant and less eager to buy acceptance; it will save you from fi-nancial and emotional heartache. Focus on being fun to be with; if that's not enough, walk away. Only spend what you have. ***

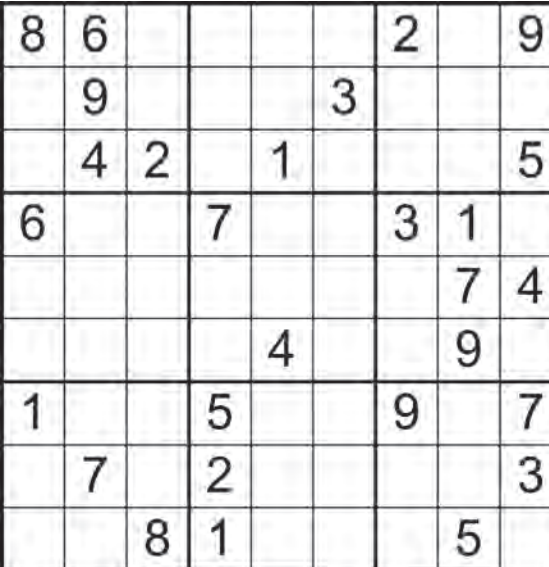
Birthday Baby: You are energetic, innovative and spontaneous. You are unique and questioning.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☼: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

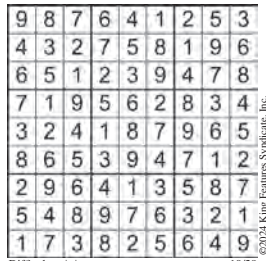
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty: ★★★ 10/30 ©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — hori-zontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

HOSPICE CARE Solution: 9 letters

PIHSNOITALERAHSH
HAESRUNAICISYHP
ESTSSDNEIRFHERI
ASAIEULAVCETOHR
RILNEOPNFAAFOEI
TSKCNENIPLNEPMLT
NTSEDTTOSERLBU
ECYREEHISROAAIA
MEHEAOSIOTTYCSL
TPTMSOLOCYNEINA
ISAEANAOLISRRSOC
MEPPAYDLAOGROUP
MRMLOVETLIUQMSD
OOELTPERSEVEREE
COMMUNICATIONRM

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STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tons/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Freeman, Buehler lead Dodgers past slumping Yankees for 3-0 advantage



NEW YORK (AP)—After all that buildup, it's been all Dodgers so far.

Freddie Freeman homered for the third straight game and Walker Buehler pitched another World Series gem as Los Angeles beat the slumping New York Yankees 4-2 on Monday night for a 3-0 lead in the Fall Classic.

With superstar Shohei Ohtani playing despite a partially dislocated left shoulder, the Dodgers moved within one victory of a surprising sweep in this much-hyped matchup between traditional powers.

"One more win. That's all I care about right now," Freeman said.

Teoscar Hernández threw out a runner at home plate with a pinpoint peg from left field. Mookie Betts and Kiké Hernández each delivered an RBI single, and the Dodgers chased Yankees starter Clarke Schmidt in the third inning.

Buehler and six relievers combined on a five-hitter for Los Angeles, on the cusp of its second championship in five years and the eighth in franchise history.

"Walker Buehler, he's been doing this his whole career in big games, big moments," Freeman said. "Steps up when you need him."

Freeman's two-run shot three batters in gave him a home run in five consecutive World Series games dating to 2021 with Atlanta, matching a major league record set by George Springer



Los Angeles Dodgers' Freddie Freeman hits a two-run home run against the New York Yankees during the first inning in Game 3 of the baseball World Series, Monday, Oct. 28, 2024, in New York.

with Houston.

Looking much healthier after a sprained right ankle slowed him earlier this postseason, Freeman connected for the first game-ending grand slam in World Series history to win a dramatic opener in Los Angeles.

Since then, it's been a one-sided fight.

Game 4 is Tuesday night at Yankee Stadium. Down to three healthy starters, the Dodgers plan their fourth bullpen game of this postseason. Rookie right-hander Luis Gil goes for New York.

The only team in big league history to overcome a 3-0 deficit in a best-of-seven postseason series was the Boston Red Sox against the Yankees in the 2004 American League

Championship Series.

"Hopefully we can go be this amazing story and shock the world," New York manager Aaron Boone said. "But right now it's about trying to get a lead, trying to grab a game, and force another one, and then on from there. But we've got to grab one first."

Dodgers manager Dave Roberts helped spark that stunning Red Sox comeback with a pivotal stolen base.

"Don't talk about that. Wrong guy. Way too early," he said. "I don't want to divulge any secrets, but from the other side, I just think that we have got to stay focused, stay urgent."

In the 11 previous World Series meetings between these old October rivals, the lone sweep was by the Dodgers

in 1963 behind Hall of Fame pitchers Sandy Koufax and Don Drysdale.

That was the only other time the Dodgers had a 3-0 lead in a World Series.

New York hasn't been swept in a Fall Classic since 1976 by the Cincinnati Reds. But on all five occasions they fell behind 3-0 in a best-of-seven postseason series, the Yankees lost Game 4.

Los Angeles has won seven World Series games in a row against the Yankees dating to its 1981 crown.

This one marked the first Series game at Yankee Stadium since New York clinched its 27th title in 2009 against Philadelphia. But a return home didn't help skidding Aaron Judge and the punchless Bronx Bombers, held to four runs and nine hits in the past two games.

New York didn't score until Alex Verdugo's two-run homer off Michael Kopech with two outs in the ninth inning. Kopech then retired Gleyber Torres on a grounder to end it.

Buehler allowed two hits in

five innings. His only previous win this year during an injury-interrupted season was May 18 against Cincinnati.

The two-time All-Star improved to 4-4 in 18 career postseason starts, including a 2-0 record with a 0.50 ERA in three World Series outings. He has yielded one run and seven hits with 22 strikeouts over 18 innings in those assignments — Game 3s against Boston (2018), Tampa Bay (2020) and the Yankees.

"It's weird. For me, I think the playoffs, big games, that's always been the only thing I really cared about," Buehler said. "I was kind of awful all year. I think once you get to the playoffs, the adrenaline, I think whatever fear I had about my elbow or trying to throw a certain pitch or whatever goes away, because it's all now, it's all go. It's helped me I think."

After the Yankees struggled at the plate during two losses in Los Angeles, Boone decided against any major changes to the lineup.

New York players held a short meeting in the afternoon, and a recording from late Yankees public-address announcer Bob Sheppard introduced five-time World Series champion Derek Jeter when he threw out a ceremonial first pitch. Bronx-born rapper Fat Joe revved up the sold-out crowd of 49,368 with a pregame performance on the infield.

But it was the Dodgers who started fast.

Schmidt walked Ohtani on four pitches to begin the game. One out later, Freeman sent a 1-2 cutter 355 feet into the lower deck in right field for his 13th career postseason homer.

He joined Yankees outfielder Hank Bauer (1958) and Giants slugger Barry Bonds (2002) as the only players to go deep in the first three

games of a World Series.

"When you come into a road park, you want to try to strike early and quiet the crowd, and we were able to do that in the first inning," Freeman said.

Ohtani finished 0 for 3 with that walk and was grazed on the foot by a pitch. He grimaced after several swings and clutched his collar with his left hand even when taking a lead off first base to protect his ailing shoulder.

But he got through the game just fine.

"The pain has subsided, so I felt pretty good about it," Ohtani said through a translator. "I was told to wear a device that keeps my shoulder warm. So during the (pregame) ceremony and throughout the game, I was wearing that per recommended by the trainers. The reason why I was holding onto myself when I was running is to make sure that I wouldn't use that same shoulder arm if I were to slide."

No. 9 batter Tommy Edman drew another four-pitch walk from Schmidt leading off the third and scored on Betts' bloop single. Kiké Hernández added an RBI single in the sixth.

Schmidt walked four over 2 2/3 innings in his third postseason start. He lost his fifth consecutive decision dating to a May 16 win at Minnesota.

New York nailed a runner at home plate when Edman attempted a safety squeeze in the fourth, but the Dodgers flashed some sensational defense to stomp out any Yankees momentum.

Betts made a diving grab in right field after Giancarlo Stanton doubled with one out in the fourth. Teoscar Hernández then fired up all his teammates with a perfect 94 mph throw to the plate on Anthony Volpe's single, cutting down Stanton to preserve a 3-0 cushion.

Instead of closing in on 28th title, Yankees on verge of getting swept at World Series for 4th time

NEW YORK (AP)—Instead of closing in on title No. 28, the New York Yankees are on the verge of getting swept in the World Series for just the fourth time.

Aaron Judge again looked lost at the plate, starting pitching faltered for the second straight game and the Yankees dropped into a 3-0 Series deficit with a 4-2 loss to the Los Angeles Dodgers on Monday night.

Judge is 1 for 12 (.083) with no RBIs and seven strikeouts in the Series and is hitting .140 with 20 strikeouts in this postseason. He is down to a .196 average with 15 homers, 31 RBIs and 86 strikeouts in his postseason career.

"Come ready to go tomorrow," manager Aaron Boone said of Judge's struggles. "He's Aaron Judge, and just continue to work and hopefully get on time and connect on some."

New York has nine hits in the last two games, just three

for extra bases, and struck out 11 times on Monday—four looking.

Its bottom four hitters are a combined 6 for 43 with three RBIs, including Alex Verdugo's two-run homer with two outs in the ninth off Michael Kopech. Yankees hitters are 4 for 20 with runners in scoring position.

"When you do get those opportunities, they're not as frequent as maybe sometimes during the season, you've got to take advantage of it," Boone said.

Even New York's bats are easy catches. When Anthony Volpe struck out against Daniel Hudson in the seventh inning, his lumber went flying over the Dodgers dugout. It hit the netting protecting fans in the prime seats, and LA field coordinator Bob Geren snagged the lumber off the rebound.

New York resembles the team that went 10-23 from mid-June through late July,

not the one that started 50-22 and rebounded to win the AL East and its 41st pennant.

New York has been swept just three times in the World Series, by the 1922 New York Giants (including a tie game), the 1963 Dodgers and the 1976 Reds.

"Hopefully we can go be this amazing story and shock the world," Boone said. "But right now it's about trying to get a lead, trying to grab a game, and force another one, and then on from there. But we've got to grab one first."

Since winning the first two games of the 1981 Series at home against the Dodgers, the Yankees have lost seven in a row to Los Angeles in the Fall Classic.

One out from winning the opener 3-2 in 10 innings, the Yankees have been outscored 12-4 since in this Series.

Carlos Rodón and Clarke Schmidt lasted six innings combined in Games 2 and 3.

Freeman homers in fifth straight World Series game, ties George Springer's record

NEW YORK (AP)—Freddie Freeman tied George Springer's record of homering in five straight World Series games, hitting a two-run drive off the New York Yankees' Clarke Schmidt in the first inning to put the Los Angeles Dodgers ahead 2-0 in Game 3 on Monday night.

Seeking its second title in five years, the Dodgers entered with a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven series.

Shohei Ohtani, playing two days after partially separating his left shoulder, walked on four pitches leading off. After Mookie Betts flied out,

Freeman drove a high cutter with a 1-2 count about five rows deep into the lower deck in right field.

Freeman became the third player to homer in the first three games of a World Series after Hank Bauer in 1958 and Barry Bonds in 2002.

He homered in Atlanta's last two games against Houston in the 2021 World Series, and he has connected in all three games of this one. An eight-time All-Star and the 2020 NL MVP, the 35-year-old Freeman has seven RBIs in the Series.

Freeman sprained his right

ankle on Sept. 26 against San Diego while trying to avoid a tag at first base by San Diego's Luis Arráez and missed the Dodgers' last three regular-season games.

His game-ending, 10th-inning grand slam in Game 1 on Friday night, which gave the Dodgers a 6-3 win, was his first home run since Sept. 16. He followed Teoscar Hernández for back-to-back homers in the third inning of Game 2.

Springer homered in Games 4 through 7 in 2017 as the Astros beat the Dodgers for the title, then hit another in the 2019 opener against Washington.

Brown scores 30 points, Pritchard makes 8 3s as Celtics beat Bucks



BOSTON (AP)—Jaylen Brown scored 30 points, Payton Pritchard came off the bench and hit eight 3-pointers en route to 28 points, and the Boston Celtics beat the Milwaukee Bucks 119-108 on Monday night.

Reigning Eastern Conference Player of the Week Jayson Tatum added 15 points and eight rebounds for Boston (4-0). Derrick White had 13 points and eight assists.

Damian Lillard led the Bucks with 33 points, seven rebounds and seven assists, and Giannis Antetokounmpo had 30 points, 10 boards and six assists. Milwaukee has lost three straight after winning its opener.

It was close until late in the third quarter, when Pritchard hit a 3-pointer with 0.4 seconds left, putting Boston ahead 90-82.

The Celtics scored the next seven points for a 15-point lead. Pritchard hit another 3-pointer during the spree.

Coming off a 13-point loss at Brooklyn on Sunday, they showed some toughness late into the third quarter before Boston's offense took over.

They keep taking a lot of 3-pointers and making them. The Celtics, who tied the NBA record with 29 3s in their season-opening win over the Knicks, were 18 of 47 from beyond the arc on Monday.

The Bucks led 80-79 before the Celtics went on an 18-2 run that spanned the final two minutes of the third quarter and the opening 1:37 of the fourth.

Pritchard was 8 of 12 on 3-pointers and fell one short of his career high of nine, set on April 9, 2023.

MAGIC 119, PACERS 115

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Paolo Banchero scored a career-high 50 points, and the Orlando Magic beat the Indiana Pacers 119-115 on Monday night.

Banchero also had 13 rebounds and nine assists in a terrific performance.

Jalen Suggs had 25 points and seven assists for Orlando, and reserve Mo Wagner finished with 14 points.

Pascal Siakam had 26 points and nine rebounds for the Pacers, who wiped out a 13-point Magic lead in the third quarter but went cold in the final minutes. Tyrese Haliburton had 19 points, nine rebounds and 10 assists.

Banchero tied a franchise record with 37 points in the



Boston Celtics' Jaylen Brown (7) drives past Milwaukee Bucks' Taurean Prince (12) during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Oct. 28, 2024, in Boston.

first half, matching Tracy McGrady on March 9, 2003.

HEAT 106, PISTONS 98

MIAMI (AP)—Jimmy Butler had 23 points and seven assists, Terry Rozier added 20 points and Miami beat Detroit.

Tyler Herro scored 19, Bam Adebayo added 12 points and 10 rebounds, and Jaime Jaquez Jr. also scored 12 for the Heat.

Cade Cunningham scored 24 points for Detroit, which is 0-4 for the third time in the last five seasons. Tim Hardaway Jr. scored 20, Jaden Ivey scored 18 and backup Isaiah Stewart had 15 rebounds for Detroit.

Miami was again without Kevin Love, who has missed all three Heat games this season for personal reasons. The Heat - on the 21st anniversary of his debut game—had a halftime ceremony honouring Dwyane Wade, whose statue outside the arena was unveiled Sunday.

CAVALIERS 110, KNICKS 104

NEW YORK (AP)—Darius Garland scored a season-high 34 points, 15 in the fourth quarter, and Cleveland improved to 4-0 by beating New York.

Donovan Mitchell added 25 points, Evan Mobley had 17 and Jarrett Allen finished with 15 points and 15 rebounds for the Cavaliers, off to their best start since beginning defense of their 2016 NBA title by starting 6-0.

Jalen Brunson had 21 points and seven assists for the Knicks, who led by 13 in the second half. Mikal Bridges scored 19 points, Josh Hart had 16 points and 13 rebounds, and OG Anunoby scored 15 points. Karl-Anthony Towns fouled out with 13 points and 10 boards.

WIZARDS 121, HAWKS 119

ATLANTA (AP)—Kyle Kuzma had 25 points, 11 rebounds and seven assists, and Washington beat Atlanta for their first win this season.

Jordan Poole scored 26 points for Washington, and reserve Corey Kispert had 21 points. The Wizards improved to 1-2 after two one-sided defeats.

Jalen Johnson led the Hawks with 29 points. Trae Young, who missed a 3-point shot at the buzzer, was limited to 2-for-15 shooting. He finished with 14 points, 13 assists and six turnovers.

The Wizards made a season-high 21 3-pointers and overcame 13 first-half turnovers with a much cleaner second half.

BULLS 126,

GRIZZLIES 123 MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—

Zach LaVine scored 30 points, including 11 in the fourth quarter to key a Chicago comeback as they defeated Memphis.

Nikola Vucevic finished with 22 points for the Bulls. Coby White scored 20 and Josh Giddey finished with 12 points, eight assists and 13 rebounds, including a key offensive rebound in the final seconds.

Desmond Bane led Memphis with 30 points, making 11 of 19 shots, including 6 of 10 from 3-point range. Jaren Jackson Jr. had 19 points, while Jake LaRavia finished with 17 points, and Scotty Pippen Jr. had 14 points and 10 assists.

The Bulls led 126-123 after Giddy split a pair of free

throws with 8.9 seconds left. Memphis had the last shot, but Bane's 3-point attempt was off the mark.

NUGGETS 127, RAPTORS 125, OT

TORONTO (AP)—Nikola Jokic scored seven of his 40 points in overtime, and Denver overcame a 15-point deficit to beat Toronto.

Canadian star Jamal Murray sent the game to overtime by making a reverse layup for the Nuggets with less than a second remaining in regulation.

Jokic also grabbed 10 rebounds. Aaron Gordon had 16 points and 11 boards for Denver.

Toronto's RJ Barrett missed a 3 in the final seconds of OT, and Ochai Agbaji and Jakob Poeltl were unable to tip in Barrett's miss.

Murray and Christian Braun each scored 17 as the Nuggets won for the first time in three games this season and extended their winning streak over the Raptors to four.

Raptors forward Scottie Barnes had 21 points, 12 rebounds and nine assists, but he was knocked out of the game in the final minute of the fourth quarter after he was elbowed in the right eye.

Barrett scored 20 points in his season debut after missing the first three games because of a sprained right shoulder. Poeltl had 16 points and a career-high 19 rebounds.

ROCKETS 106, SPURS 101

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Jalen Green scored 34 points and Houston never trailed in a victory over Victor Wembanyama and

San Antonio.

Jabari Smith added 17 points and Alperen Sengun had 12 points and 12 rebounds for Houston.

The Rockets rebounded from a 109-106 loss to the Spurs on Saturday to close out a two-game set in San Antonio.

Jeremy Sochan had 22 points and nine rebounds, and Wembanyama had 12 points and 18 rebounds for the Spurs.

MAVERICKS 110, JAZZ 102

DALLAS (AP)—Kyrie Irving scored 23 points and Klay Thompson added 18 to lift Dallas over Utah.

Jazz forward Taylor Hendricks was wheeled off on a stretcher with a broken leg midway through the third quarter after he fell to the floor without any contact near the baseline beneath Utah's basket. The team said he had a fractured right fibula and dislocated ankle.

Luke Doncic had 15 points, nine rebounds and eight assists on an off shooting night.

Irving was scoreless until hitting two 3-pointers in the final 40 seconds of the first quarter for the defending Western Conference champions, who have won two of their first three games.

Collin Sexton scored 23 points and Lauri Markkanen and Keonte George added 17 each to lead the Jazz, who have lost their first three games for the first time since the 2015-16 season.

Doncic was 5 of 22 from the floor and hit his only 3-pointer in nine tries with 2:34 remaining.

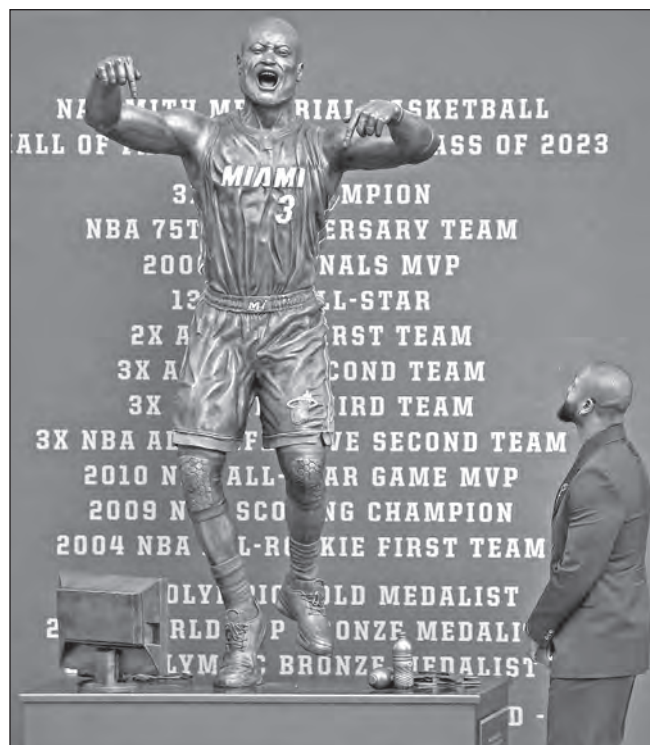
Heat unveil statue of Dwyane Wade outside the front of team's arena

MIAMI (AP)—Dwyane Wade is now the first Miami Heat player with a statue outside the team's arena.

The Heat unveiled the statue Sunday, about eight months after team president Pat Riley announced plans for the tribute. Wade is Miami's all-time leading scorer, and he and Udonis Haslem are the only players to have been on all three Heat teams that won NBA championships.

The statue depicts Wade's "This is my house" moment, the one where he jumped atop a courtside table after a buzzer-beater to beat Chicago in double overtime in 2009.

"This is crazy," Wade said moments after the unveiling. "I wanted to feel this. Life goes by so fast and it's very rare that we get to feel things, because we're always off to the next thing. ... I wanted



Former Miami Heat NBA basketball player Dwyane Wade looks at a bronze statue in his image during its unveiling ceremony outside Kaseya Center, Sunday, Oct. 27, 2024, in Miami, Fla.

to feel this, man. I wanted to look at it."

An in-game celebration will follow Monday when Miami plays host to Detroit on the 21st anniversary of Wade's debut game with the franchise.

Wade, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, is one of six former Heat players to have their number retired by the team—along with Haslem, Chris Bosh, Tim Hardaway, Shaquille O'Neal and Alonzo Mourning.

"As the greatest player ever in Miami Heat history, yes, it's his day, it's his family's day," Riley said.

The statue is accompanied by a wall listing Wade's career accomplishments and has been placed outside the front doors of the team's arena. Wade is now a part-owner of the Utah Jazz in addition to having many other business interests.

Calvin Austin III scores twice as the Steelers hold off the Giants



PITTSBURGH (AP)—Pittsburgh Steelers coach Mike Tomlin pulled Calvin Austin III aside before the undersized wide receiver took the field for a punt return in the third quarter of a somewhat lifeless game against the New York Giants.

The Steelers were scuffling. The offense was moving the ball, just not into the end zone. Tomlin knew the 5-foot-9, 162-pound Austin had come close to breaking a big return several times this season. And the NFL's longest-tenured head coach had a feeling.

"I thought it was his time," Tomlin said. "And he thought it was his time. And he delivered."

Not once, but twice.

Austin—who texted his friends over the weekend that he was due to break a big one—sprinted across the field and raced 73 yards for a touchdown after Tomlin's little pep talk. He later added a 29-yard, over-the-shoulder scoring grab to give the



Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Calvin Austin III (19) celebrates his touchdown catch with teammates during the second half of an NFL football game against the New York Giants, Monday, Oct. 28, 2024, in Pittsburgh.

Steelers the boost they needed to beat the Giants 26-18 on Monday night.

Pittsburgh (6-2) won its 22nd straight home game under the Monday night lights behind Austin's playmaking and a pair of late turnovers. T.J. Watt strip-sacked

Daniel Jones with less than three minutes to go to end one New York drive, and rookie cornerback Beanie Bishop picked Jones off with 42 seconds to play to end it.

"It wasn't as fluid as we'd like but that's football," Tomlin said. "We've

got to guard against (caring about) style points."

Good thing, because style points were in short supply on a night when three apparent touchdowns—two by Pittsburgh, one by New York—were nullified, the teams combined for 16 penalties, and drives regularly bogged down near the end zone.

The Steelers won their third straight and head into their bye week leading the AFC North by one game over Baltimore. After relying heavily on their defense over the opening month, the Steelers' offense has found another gear since Wilson returned from a calf injury that forced him to miss the first six games.

The 35-year-old completed 20 of 28 passes for 278 yards in his second home start as a Steeler. His only real miscue was a fumble with 4:42 remaining that briefly opened the door for the Giants (2-6).

Watt closed it a few moments later after New York opted to not double-team him with the Giants driving for the potential tying score.

"He's got a unique talent, a unique approach," Tomlin said. "He gets unique results."

Najee Harris ran for 114 yards, topping 100 for a third straight game for the first time in his career. Chris Boswell kicked four field goals to bail out an offense that bogged down regularly in New York territory.

Wilson also spread the ball around, connecting with eight players, a promising development for a team that has relied heavily—perhaps too heavily—on George Pickens to make something happen in the passing game.

Austin finished with three receptions for 54 yards. Van Jefferson added four receptions for 62 yards. Even third-string tight end MyCole Pruitt caught a pass.

INTER

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season.

This time around, Priority Care was a force to be reckoned with and took it out all on the court against the educators that schooled them. Priority Care controlled the game early on as their starting five's defense was impenetrable.

PSS could not get their footing right and Priority Care had a double-digit lead just a few minutes in. At the end of the first, they were up by 20, 25-5. Priority Care's Steve King then took it upon himself to extend their lead from downtown with three back-to-back threes to open up the second quarter.

He went on a shooting rampage from there with help from Ray Agulto and Marvin Rebauliman. Meanwhile, PSS tried to get going and managed to put up double digits, but by then, Priority Care's lead was insurmountable.

By the end of the second, Priority Care led, 47-26. After a disappointing first half, PSS regrouped and tried to come out stronger in the second half. However, the duo of Melvin Sakisat and Mii Tekopua wasn't enough to overcome Priority Care's dominance on the court.

In the end, King blew everyone out of the water with 42 points, while Rabauliman was the only other player in double digits with 11. As for PSS, Sakisat put up 17, while Tekopua was



PSS' Mii Tekopua, right, and Priority Care's Marvin Rabauliman go up for the jump ball in the opening game of the 2nd Annual R&J Wine and Liquor Inter-Gov't/Business League 2024 last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

right behind at 16 points.

The 12 teams in the league are PSS, Priority Care, Docomo Pacific, IT&E, Marpac, CUC, E-Land, CPA, Foremost-Coca Cola/Subway, DFEMS, Feds, and CHCC.

Games are every Monday, Tuesday, and some Wednesdays at 6pm and 7:30pm; and Saturday at 3pm and 4:30pm—all at the Ada Gym.

Entrance fee for general admission is \$3, while VIP is \$6.

In the opening ceremony remarks of Apatang before the first game, he bid the teams to have fun.

As for Tan in his remarks, he said, "I just want to acknowledge the support coming from the 12 teams, be-

cause it's not free, right? And it's been raining a lot lately, as we all know. So, it's pretty cool to be sitting here tonight, enjoying the air con, even for the spectators, and you don't have to worry about the rest of the season, because all of you will be playing in this Ada Gym, which we're so happy that we're able to put an air con. We're really, really happy to see all of you taking your time and interest to continue playing your favorite game called basketball. So good luck to the season and just keep enjoying the season until mid-January."

Then, the league commissioner, NMIBF's Marlene Lumabi, said, "Today, we celebrate not just the game, but the spirit of teamwork, dedication, and community that basketball embodies. As we lace up our sneakers and hit the court, let's take a moment to reflect on what this season means. It's not just about points on the scoreboard, it's about the friendships we'll forge, the lessons we'll learn and the memories we'll create. Every practice and game is an opportunity to grow, not just as players, but as individuals... Play with heart, respect your opponents, and, most importantly, have fun."

Priority Care 78 – King 42, Rabauliman 11, Agulto 9, Aldan 8, Elameto 6, Maratita 2.

PSS 59 – Sakisat 17, Tekopua 16, Pineda 9, Itibus 5, Basa 2, Guinto 2, Pascual 2, Mendiola 2, Mendez 2, #2 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-5, 47-26, 59-44, 78-59.

moto 2, J. Defang 1.

Café Meraki-Sophia Althea 43 – Ibarola 15, Sanchez 12, Tibayan 9, Esdrelon 3, Garcia 2, Palacios 2.

Scoring by halves: 14-17, 50-43.

670 Rollers 1 60 – Helgen 18, J.P. Pineda 17, Enriquez 13, Defang 4, Norech 2, J. Pineda 2.

Triple R Auto Parts 54 – Lucero 22, Navarro 11, Peters 8, Quizon 8, Ragbonshe 3, J. Lucero 2.

Scoring by halves: 26-24, 60-54.

I. Quizon came up short as Rollers 1 took it all the way home with a six-point deficit win, 60-54.

Helgen led the Rollers with 18, Pineda contributed with 17, and Enriquez had 13 markers. Lucero had a game-high 22 points, while Navarro scored 11, and Peters and Quizon put up twin eight points.

670 Rollers 2 50 – S. Defang 20, Tengco 15, Addy 6, Paul 6, Matsu-

TRENCH

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(no gi), Uma Naputi (no gi), and Wolfie Sablan (no gi)

Alongside these medalists, Trench Tech was also represented by Gabriel Mitchell and Jordan Camacho. Both of them competed strongly in their divisions and demonstrated the skills and sportsmanship Trench Tech values.

"With each tournament, the competition gets stiffer and stronger. The game is always evolving and advancing," he added.

The Pātgon Jiu Jitsu Tournament, held twice a year, has been a mainstay since its inception in 2022, and Trench Tech has competed in each of these events. Alvarez noted that the regular tournaments help sharpen the team's competitive edge, especially given Guam's numerous high-caliber BJJ academies. "Guam has numerous BJJ academies, and the competition is always challenging, but we are right there in the mix," he stated, expressing optimism about the future of jiu-jitsu in the CNMI. "It is safe to say that the future of jiu-jitsu in the CNMI is bright with Trench Tech and Saipan Submissions providing quality training for our island youth. Team CNMI in that respect is growing as well."

To cultivate young talent, Trench Tech has introduced three additional weekly classes dedicated to their competition team, with a special advanced session on Fridays. The training approach for young athletes emphasizes extensive mat time, focusing on drills, sparring, and competition-specific preparation. Alvarez highlighted that these extra sessions have become essential for preparing the team, especially as the level of competition continues to rise.

The impact of jiu-jitsu on the young athletes at Trench Tech extends beyond physical training. Alvarez passionately spoke about the broader benefits of the sport, including self-development, self-defense skills, and the cultivation of discipline, humility, respect, and sportsmanship.

"Jiu jitsu is a beautiful art; it's fun

and a healthy way to keep your mind and body strong and in shape," he explained. Alvarez shared that the sport builds confidence and camaraderie, enhances teamwork skills, and fosters lifelong friendships.

In addition to his work with Trench Tech, Alvarez has a history of teaching private classes at Agape Christian School, where he introduced many young students to the fundamentals of martial arts and self-discipline, fostering a passion for jiu jitsu that continues in his training programs today.

Trench Tech's influence reaches beyond the dojo, inspiring students to bring martial arts into their schools. Alvarez noted Trench Tech's involvement in supporting the Marianas High School MMA Club, where students have organized seminars and in-school grappling and submission tournaments for the past two years. "We at Trench Tech are happy to continue assisting these students in developing their martial arts skills both on and off campus," Alvarez said, emphasizing his hope for more schools to offer similar physical education programs.

The success of Trench Tech's youth team would not have been possible without the unwavering support from family members, donors, and sponsors. Alvarez extended his gratitude to sponsors, including Monster Energy, Century Hotel, Hafa Adai Rent-a-Car, Marianas Variety, McDonald's Saipan and Guam, Mike Atoigue, The Office of Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez, Pokka, House Vice Speaker Joel C. Camacho (Ind-Saipan), Roil Soil and Shayne Villanueva, the Saipan Mayor's Office, Sammy Manglona, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Turn Key Solutions, 4ever CNMI, 670 Rocksteady Shop, AA Enterprises Inc., All-Star Sporting Goods, Boarderline, Cepeda Tent Rentals, DC Pro Rentals, Department of Fire & EMS, Garapan Restaurant, Ina's Kitchen, Java Joe's, and Jinhyeok Shin.

As Trench Tech's youth team continues to excel and inspire, the CNMI's jiu-jitsu community looks ahead with optimism, anticipating further growth and achievements in the sport.

ROLLERS

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a 2-point lead, 26-24.

The second half saw both teams giving it their all, but Rollers 1's K. Helgen, J.P. Pineda, and C. Enriquez were a trio that not only put up numbers, but flashed it off on defense too. Toward the end, Triple R Auto Parts' C. Lucero, J. Navarro, M. Peters, and



Freeman, Buehler lead Dodgers past slumping Yankees for 3-0 advantage

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Calvin Austin III scores twice as the Steelers hold off the Giants

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Trench Tech youth shine in Guam tourney

By JERCY DIANA MAXIMO
jercymaximo05@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Youth athletes of Trench Tech Purebred Saipan made an impressive showing, returning home with eight medals at the Fall 2024 Pātgon Jiu Jitsu Tournament held last Saturday at the Father Duenas Phoenix Center in Guam.



Seven of the nine competitors from Trench Tech placed on the podium, securing one gold, three silver, and four bronze medals across various divisions.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Trench Tech Purebred Saipan youth team at the Purebred Guam Academy before competing in the Fall Pātgon Jiu-Jitsu Tournament. Back row from left, Gabe Mitchel, coach Justis "Cuki" Alvarez, Trey Manglona, and former UFC fighter Frank "The Crank" Camacho. Middle row from left, Ayani Rios, Iris Quitugua, Jordan Camacho, Alexander Diaz, and Justo Quitugua. Front row, Urijah Sablan and Uma Naputi.

Trench Tech Purebred Saipan founder Justis "Cuki" Alvarez expressed pride in the team's performance, noting the event's significance in the growth of jiu jitsu within the CNMI.

"Our kids did well! We brought nine kids down, and we are coming home with eight medals! One gold, three silver, and four bronze," said Alvarez. He acknowledged that as each tournament pro-

gresses, competition continues to intensify, pushing young athletes to elevate their skill level and technique to stay competitive.

Justo Quitugua won gold (Gi), while Trey Manglona bagged two silvers (gi and no gi). Iris Quitugua also went home with silver. Winning bronze were Alexander Diaz (gi), Ayani Rios

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Inter gov't/biz league underway; Priority Care draws first blood



LEIGH GASES

Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang, center, gets ready to toss the ceremonial jump ball in the opening ceremony of the 2nd Annual R&J Wine and Liquor Inter-Gov't/Business League 2024 last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2nd Annual R&J Wine and Liquor Inter-Gov't/Business League 2024 went underway last Monday with a parade of teams and an opening game at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



About 30 minutes after the opening ceremony attended by Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang, Northern Marianas Sports Association president Jerry Tan, Northern Mariana Islands Basketball

Federation president James Lee, and NMIBF members, the league opened with the first game between defending champions PSS and second place Priority Care.

Apatang tossed the ceremonial jump ball before a group photo that signaled the start of the league.

The opening game was a finals rematch between PSS and Priority Care. Priority Care sought vengeance and got the taste of victory, 78-59, after falling short last

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LEIGH GASES

Priority Care poses for a group photo during the parade of teams in the opening ceremony of the 2nd Annual R&J Wine and Liquor Inter-Gov't/Business League 2024 last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

670 Rollers teams debut strong

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 670 Rollers 1 and 2 teams started their campaign strong in the U17 division of the 2nd Annual SMEC-SMLEG Invitational Basketball Tournament 2024 last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rollers 2 beat Café Meraki-Sophia Althea, 50-43. For this game, full names weren't given by organizers.

It was a close matchup with both teams unable to pull away in the first half. Missed opportunities from both ends because of strong defense made it a low scoring one, but Café Meraki-Sophia Althea had a 3-point advantage at the end of the half, 17-14, thanks to the efforts of Sanchez and Ibarola.

However, the lead saw-sawed between the two as the game progressed. The Rollers seemed to have found their rhythm and were making their shots, while Café Meraki-Sophia Althea appeared to stumble.

The Rollers' Slymark Defang and Marc Tengco became the dynamic duo that they needed and went on to lead the team to their 7-point win.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

670 Rollers 1 poses for a group photo during the opening ceremony of the 2nd Annual SMEC-SMLEG Invitational Basketball Tournament 2024 last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



LEIGH GASES

670 Rollers 2 poses for a group photo during the opening ceremony of the 2nd Annual SMEC-SMLEG Invitational Basketball Tournament 2024 last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Café Meraki-Sophia Althea's Tibayan

Defang led the game with 20 points, while Tengco scored 15.



For Café Meraki-Sophia Althea, Ibarola led with 15, while Sanchez put up 12. Then, Rollers 1 defeated Triple R Auto Parts, 60-54.

Both teams were evenly matched as well as they made it rain buckets in the first half. The lead teetered back-and-forth as their offenses were one fire. At the end of the first half, Rollers 1 hung on to just

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